

Prince Albert Friend

'n Gemeenskapskoerant wat Prince Albert, Klaarstroom, Leeu-Gamka en Merweville bedien

UITGAWE/ISSUE 185

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July/August 2012

LIGHTS... CAMERA... ACTION!

Prince Albert takes centre stage



Back l to r: Hetta Saunderson, M4 Events, Jeremia Prens, PA Tourism, Pieter Coen, Kwêla presenter, Johannes Khiba, assistant cameraman, Wim Du Plessis, cameraman. Front l to r: Hanné Koster, Kwêla producer, Karin Burger, Rapport, Odile Wanie, PA Tourism, Zelia Mullins, PA Tourism.

On July 11th a very important film crew rolled into town.

And their quest?

To capture that intangible “something” that could win Prince Albert the coveted place of Western Cape finalist in the *Kwêla en Rapport se Dorp van die Jaar kompetisie 2012*.

Earlier I had sent a three-page list of recommended attractions to Pieter Cilliers Produksies which, after a flurry of e-mails, was whittled down to just one-page. They then allocated a time-slot, drew up a shooting schedule and tasked me with the job of “film-crew guide.” Filming was to take place over two days, beginning at sunrise and ending at sunset... or beyond.

I was to plan the shortest routes between points of interest. Get the ‘actors’ ready, and willing, on time. Keep the weather beautiful and the wind at breeze level.

And make sure that any animals scheduled to be shot understood that this was purely a technical term and no guns would be involved.

Early on the first morning, we were due to film Gay’s Angora goats being moved along Christina de Wit Street. While waiting for them, the sun came up and the cameras started rolling. Little did I know that that impromptu shoot – of the mountains, the bougainvillea, the windmill and Dennehof – would become the main ‘clip’ in the *Rapport* article a few days later.

Next was a visit to Ellen Joubert and the Handmade-Karoo-Handgemaak project. Here presenter Pieter Coen played with Rose Balie’s sheep and Dina Fortuin told the cameras that living in Prince Albert was just like life in the soapie *7de Laan*!

This was followed by a drive up the Swartberg Pass with Judy Maguire,

(Continued on p 10)



Gamkaskloof hou Padfees

Die lint is met groot fanfare en opwinding geknip op 9 Augustus 1962 toe die lank verwagte pad na Gamkaskloof oopgestel is. En nou, presies vyftig jaar later, is almal weer in rep en roer om die pad “Hel” toe te gedenk. Op Vrydag, 10 Augustus, om 09h00, word daar weer ‘n lint geknip by die Otto du Plessis-afdraaipad na Gamkaskloof soos toe die pad in gebruik geneem is - ‘n seremonie gereël deur geskiedeniskenner, Hennie van der Merwe.

Die plegtigheid sal waargeneem word deur Otto du Plessis se twee kinders, Elnarie van Huyssteen en Louis du Plessis, wie se ma in 1962 die eer gehad het om die lint te knip. Die Wes-Kaap se minister van Landbou sal ‘n huldigingsboodskap bring en Goliath Lottering, Prince Albert se burgemeester en Sandra Hugo, dogter van padmaker Koos van Zyl, sal ook hul sê sê.

Daarna kan geesdriftiges die kronkelrit aanpak na die Jouberts se Restaurant op die Gasteplaas Fontein vir ‘n uitsonderlike fees wat somer die res van die naweek gaan duur. Saterdagoggend word egte Boeresport aangebied en heerlike potjiekos, potbrode en roosterkoek gaan monde laat water. Mejuffrou “Prikkel-pop” gaan gekroon word en oud-Klower Annetjie Mostert gaan ‘n geskiedenisstoer deur die vallei lei. Ander oud-Klowers gaan ook hul kennis en stories met gaste deel.

Farewell Cornie

We were saddened by the passing in mid-July of Cornie Koen who managed the *Prince Albert Friend's* accounts and administration so diligently for the last seven years. At the same time we know that she is at peace. We will miss her gentle nature, her soft laugh, the twinkle in her eye and her positive approach to life no matter what. Our thoughts are with her loved ones and especially her and Johan's daughter, Illandy, of whom she was so proud and who she loved deeply.

Cornie was dedicated to the *Friend* and would no doubt have found pleasure in this edition. Our contributors have done us proud but then again Prince Albert and surrounds are where stories happen. The *Kwêla/Rapport Dorp van die Jaar* competition is prominent and soon we will know whether Prince Alberters have done enough to ensure that the town comes up trumps. Tourism Manager, Zelia Mullins, has written a delightful personal account of the *Kwêla/Rapport* team's three-day visit to the town and a spread of photos

gives a taste of what they did here.

We also cover the upcoming 50th anniversary of the official opening of the Otto du Plessis Road to Gamkaskloof. The endeavours of the *Gamkasklowers* before there was a road out of the valley and the building of the road are remarkable stories as captured by Lydia Barrella.

We continue the 'Honour Our Roots; Inspire Our Youth' series and there are other good news stories too. We reflect the glamour of Hoërskool Zwartberg's Matric Farewell, Prince Albert's version of Hollywood's Red Carpet, as well as the activities of community organisations, including the lead up to the N G Kerk's 150th bazaar.

This is Women's Month – please take time to read the article on women's health programmes in Prince Albert and surrounds. Our entire community benefits when women's health is addressed holistically.

Other Perspectives

Religions are different roads converging upon the same point.
What does it matter that we take different roads
So long as we reach the same goal.

- Mahatma Gandhi -

Write it on your heart
that every day is the best day in the year.
He is rich who owns the day, and no one owns the day
who allows it to be invaded with fret and anxiety.

Finish every day and be done with it.
You have done what you could.
Some blunders and absurdities, no doubt crept in.
Forget them as soon as you can, tomorrow is a new day;
begin it well and serenely, with too high a spirit
to be cumbered with your old nonsense.

This new day is too dear,
with its hopes and invitations,
to waste a moment on the yesterdays.

- Ralph Waldo Emerson -

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Kerneels Mulder

We aim to deliver a *Prince Albert Friend* to the community at the end of each month. To make this possible, we need to receive contributions & advertisements by 13 AUGUST 2012.

Handig kopie in, verkieslik in MS Word 2000 formaat, getik of in drukskrif geskryf by die toerismekantoor of e-pos aan:

princealbertfriend@gmail.com

Subscription / Intekening

11 issues p.a. @ R180,00 - including postage & packaging.

Apart from Nov/Dec, this is a monthly publication. U kan by die **toerismekantoor** langs die Fransie Pienaar Museum inteken.

Website: www.patourism.co.za
princealbertfriend.blogspot.com

Closing date for contributions and adverts for the next issue is 13 AUGUST 2012

No late submissions accepted!

Inserts charged at R500 each

Advertensiegelde Advert costs

Full page **R350**; Half page **R190**;
Quarter page (12cm x 9.45cm) **R100**;
R5,40 for every cm per column. **R3,00** per line for small ads.

Advertensies moet by die Toerismekantoor ingehandig word. Advertisements must be handed in at the Tourism Bureau

Note: Adverts are limited to the following widths (except in the case of a quarter page): 6.1cm (1 column), 12.8cm (2 columns) and 19cm (3 columns). They can however be any height. Proofs only by request.

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SO PRETTY—R1,3M



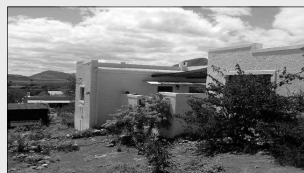
3-bed traditional house in serene established 2000m² garden, double garage, stone outbuilding, borehole, auto-irrigation & n/f patio. Wooden floors & sashes.

WATERKOP

Beautiful smallholdings for sale at this exclusive address 5 hectares from R450 000



KOPPIE MAGIC—R1,15M



Fabulous views from this 2-bdrmd, 2-bathrmd home in indigenous garden leading straight onto koppie. Lock up & leave, or move in & enjoy.

R1M—MAGNIFICENT 10 HECTARES VERY CLOSE TO TOWN



Unlimited vistas & extensive river frontage. Unique smallholding offers an ideal opportunity to live an independent lifestyle off the grid. No more Eskom charges or hassles!

NEW RELEASE R900 000



Securely enclosed in a quiet street on 1000m², this sturdy home has a surprising amount of space. Three bedrooms, TV room, living room, enormous kitchen/dining room combined, with loads of cupboards and a scullery. Borehole with solar pump plus Leiwater! Enormous shade net enclosure in rear garden.



RE-RELEASED—R3,5M NEGOTIABLE GLAMOUR, STYLE AND FUNCTION

This architect-designed home comprises 2 dwellings – the 270m² main house with double-volume interior AND a beautiful guest cottage with international style interiors in a historic Karoo setting.

Both lead to a sheltered patio with lap pool and gazebo. The main house features two bedrooms and a bathroom with circular mosaic-tiled tub, multi-level living, dining and kitchen areas occupying the ground floor, and a sweeping ramp to the upper level artist's studio with roof-top entertainment deck. The sale includes equipment in the guest cottage and imported kitchen appliances in the main house

This is just a small sample of what we have in our extensive property portfolio.
Visit our website for fresh properties, Prince Albert news and market trends updated regularly.



LETTERS / BRIEWE



Die *Prince Albert Vriend* behou die reg voor om briewe te redigeer en te verkort.
Briewe moet vergesel wees van die skrywer se naam, adres en telefoonnommer (nie vir bekendstelling nie.)

Totsiens van Lettie en Gawie Breytenbach

Sedert 2005, 'n relatiewe kort tydjie, het ons baie vriende en kennisse op Prince Albert en omgewing gemaak. Ons lewensreis hier het ons op baie op- en afdraende geneem, selfs moeilike en uitdagende bergpasse oor, maar altyd op 'n ongelooflike ontdekkingstog, waar ons meer van onself en die Skepper kon ontdek en ervaar.

Ons is ongelooflik lief vir die Karoo. Die sonsondergange is sekerlik uniek. Maar die Groot Navigator lei ons nou terug na die Tuinroete en ons vertrek eersdaags na Heidelberg (Kaap). Om "af te tree"? Nie so seker nie. Weet nie watter 'werk' daar gedoen moet word nie, maar die kinders en kleinkinders kan nie meer wag dat Oupa en Ouma nou naby hulle kom woon nie...die bestelling vir 'n duiwehok is al klaar in! En Ouma moet asb al die borduur- en hekelboeke saambring, want die meisiekinders is nou 'hooked' op die ge'hook' van hekelwerk. Hopelik word Ouma nou 'n rêrige ouma, dis nou te sê as jy 'n paling in 'n emmer kan hou.

Eens tydens 'n werksonderhoud in die

verlede was aan my gevra watter monumente ek (ons) beplan om te bou. Ek glo nie 'n mens beplan dit werklik nie, maar ons vertrou dat waar ons betrokke was, op persoonlike vriendskaps-, werks- en kerkverband of waar ookal die nalatenskap die geur van Christus sal dra en daarop voortgebou sal kan word.

Baie dankie julle almal.

"Yster slyp yster, vriende vorm mekaar".
Spr.27:17

Ons sal darem nog van tyd tot tyd Prince Albert besoek; mens keer mos weer en weer terug na Mekka en die soet vrugte van die paradys.

Gawie en Lettie Breytenbach

Eerste Botmas in Prince Albert

Die volgende het betrekking : Uitgawe 184 van Junie/Julie 2012...bladsy 25, die artikel getiteld : "PRINCE ALBERT AUTHORS DO US PROUD" eerste paragraaf van die laaste kolom op die bladsy, haal ek aan : "many of the familiar surnames in the district such as Botma, de Wit, Rossouw were

direct descendants of the two first Botes brothers in South Africa"

Die geskiedenisboeke dui aan dat die Leenplaas Kweeekvallei aan twee broers, Stephanus Johannes Botma en Gerrit Lodewyk Botma, deur Sir George Napier, destyds Goewerneur van die Kaapkolonie, oorgedra was op 15 April 1841.

Die Museum beskik oor 'n onuitputlike bron van inligting oor van die vroegste geskiedenis van Prince Albert indien u skrywers en lesers inligting sou benodig.

C J Botma

Thank you to two guardian angels

On 6 July 2012 my partner and I were returning home to Durban from Paternoster. We had a blow out 30 kilometres from Prince Albert. Fortunately no one was hurt in the incident. However, two wonderful women stopped to keep us company while I changed the tyre.

Due to the shock and all the goings on, I cannot remember their names; I just remember that they have a house in Prince Albert which they visit every second weekend and they drive a Mercedes Benz SUV. They also mentioned that they live in Bloubergstrand. (We were driving a silver Suzuki Jimny.)

If it is at all possible I would like to convey my sincere gratitude to both of them. I am hoping that the *Friend* can help me to contact them or possibly relay my message onto them. They were our guardian angels. A HUGE THANK YOU to both of you! We need more people like you in this world.

*Janet Redfern
Durban*

*Ed. - Zelda Koorts and Tania van de Vyfer
were the "Guardian Angels"*

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EFT's can be made to: Savings account 9075581210,
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Please use your name as reference and fax proof of payment,
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Prince Albert has the best Post Office in the South Cape



Dan Mbatha, General Manager, Retail Operations, SA Post Office with Ronél Tolken, Melanie Meiring and Malcolm Horsban of the Prince Albert Post Office (Photo: Ogilvy PR)

Prince Albert Post Office won the title of best branch in the South Cape region at the bi-annual Operational Excellence Awards with a remarkable 97.18%. The award ceremony took place on Saturday, 21 July 2012 at the '15 on Orange' hotel in Cape Town.

"We are thrilled with our award!" said Ronél Tolken, branch manager. "The achievement is thanks to a policy of doing everything right the first time."

"The awards were established to acknowledge and reward outstanding service,"

said Noluvo Dlulane, SA Post Office regional manager for consumer services. She continued: "We hope that these awards will inspire those working for the SA Post office to continue to provide service with a smile and go that extra mile for the communities within which they operate."

Winners for the operational excellence awards are audited every six months and the auditors use a nationally standardised operational checklist. A minimum score of 90 per cent is required to qualify for any award.

The winners in the Western Cape will compete with their national counterparts at the end of the year. "I trust one of our branches will walk away with the national prize!" concluded Dlulane.

Congratulations, Ronél and your team! As far as we are concerned, there's no contest, our Post Office is the best in the country!

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Saterdag
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Sondae
10h00 – 15h00
***(Bel kantoor om te bevestig)**

NOU OOP OP
***SONDAE!**

Starry Splendour over Prince Albert

In August the days will be noticeably longer as since 7 July they have lengthened daily by one minute in the morning and one minute in the evening.

This is the time for the rich winter constellation Sagittarius in the dense part of the Milky Way above our heads at night. The Archer is difficult to recognise as such and it is much easier to look for a teapot with lid, handle and spout under the Scorpion where the Milky Way seems to split. European stargazers envy us because we have the most beautiful winter constellations right above our heads, while they have to look low over their southern horizon for them.

This is the direction of the centre of our Milky Way galaxy and in this area of the sky we can find at least 20 Messier objects i.e. open clusters, globular clusters, double stars and nebulae that are awesome through binoculars and telescope. The French astronomer Charles Messier (1730 – 1817) compiled a catalogue of 110 hazy objects in the sky that become splendid gems when observed with some magnification.

Near Sagittarius or rather just under the teapot is a clear little arch of stars like a crown, hence its name: Corona Australis, the Southern Crown, in contrast to the Northern Crown: Corona Borealis which can be found by just looking north at the same elevation.

Venus will remain the striking Morning Star for the rest of the month.

Full Moon is twice this month on 2 August and on 31 August with the latter being called "Blue Moon" although it will not be close to that colour. From now on Full Moon will be at the end of the month for the rest of the year. New Moon is on 17 August.

Jupiter is very bright (mag. - 2.7) in Taurus and is close to Aldebaran in the early morning but will move together with that constellation earlier into the night until it becomes an evening object in December.

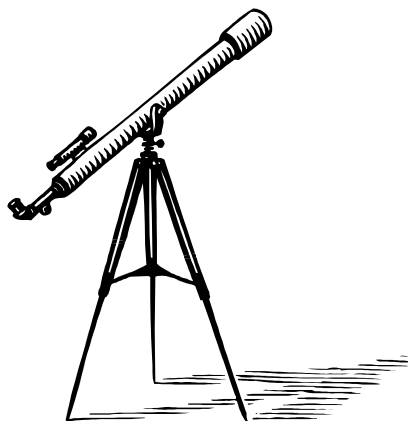
Saturn can only be observed for a few hours after sunset at the beginning of August but try to observe it with Mars close by on the 15th of the month. Looking north a configuration like a large cross can be seen. This is Cygnus, the swan, thus also called the Northern Cross.

The Sun is our most observed star with six unmanned solar telescopes spread over the Earth studying the Sun continuously. One of these automatic telescopes is at Sutherland where it tracks the Sun automatically and measures its oscillation caused by the gravitational pull of the passing planets. There are now nine dedicated satellites measuring the solar magnetic field, solar flares, sun spots and the ejection of solar energetic particles that cause beautiful Auroras in the polar regions but that are dangerous to earthlings and especially astronauts. Never look at the Sun with unprotected eyes or through unsuitable equipment!

The beloved Southern Cross is now positioned on its side with the pointers above it, all of them on their way to disappear behind the Swartberg soon until January. but the outstanding Magellan Clouds high in the sky will make up for this.

Keep the stars in your eyes!

- Hans Daehne -



FUTURE EVENTS

August 2012

1 August: PA Garden Club, work party at Fransie Pienaar Museum garden, 15:00

10 August: 50-jarige viering van die Otto du Plessispad na Gamkaskloof, 09:00

10 August: NG Kerk: Kom Kuier Saam om die Kampvure, Markie, 17:00 tot laat

11 August: NG Kerk se 150ste basaar, 08:30

29 August: Tourism Association AGM

30 & 31 August: Hoërskool Swartberg se kultuuraand

September 2012

1 September: TEDx Prince Albert: "Meet me there: Working Beneath, Between and Beyond towards a thriving planet"

4 September: Prince Albert Primêr Visbraai

15 September: New Apostolic Church Choirs Music Hour, 15:00

21 – 23 September: Saamtrek van die De Beer familie

24 September: Heritage Day Community Braai

28 September – 1 October: Prince Albert Art Festival

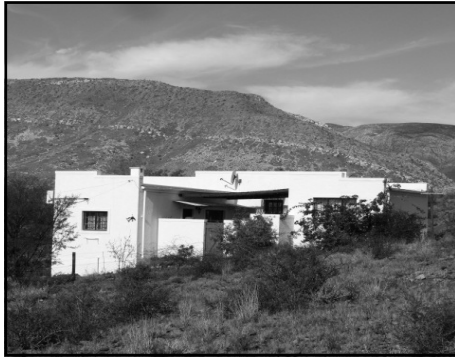


**We show you the stars...
In the Great Karoo!**

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KONTREI EIENDOMME

**“Kom ons praat Eiendom!”, sê Denise Ohlson — 25 jaar in Prince Albert...
Denise Ohlson, 25 years in Prince Albert, says: “Let’s talk property.”**



R1,1 mil

Fraai huis teen die koppie met die ongelooflikste uitsigte. Twee slaapkamers en-suite, sitkamer met kaggel, kombuis met alle implimente ingesluit!



R1,2 mil

Mooiste Victoriaanse huis, perfek opgeknep. Twee slaapkamers, pragtige badkamers, tydskrif-kombuis. Lekker sonstoep, gawe tuin. Aparte woonstel. Garage.



R3,5 mil

Hou jy van die ongewone? Kom kyk dan na House Sally en betree ‘n nuwe wêreld van styl en argitektoniese kuns. Plus ‘n perfekte kothuis!



R1,7 mil

This fabulous property is waiting for the clever purchaser who will value the luxurious space and comfort, enjoy the garden and commanding views...



R750,000

Large erf of 4,400 m² in stupendous setting of indigenous veld and plants. Plan your dream house with views from sunrise to sunset to moonrise.



R850,000

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MUSEUMNUUS: Soweto Social Cohesion Summit – 2012

Onder leiding van Hannelie du Preez van Departement Kultuursake en Sport het Prince Albert se Sosiale Samehorigheidsberaad in Augustus 2011 sy afskop gehad in die Fransie Pienaar Museum. Die gevolg: Op Dinsdag, 3 Julie, vertrek Brett Bard, Sidney Koonthea, Hennie du Plessis, Brendon Kammies en Christeline Esterhuizen uit Prince Albert na die George Lughawe om OR Tambo toe te vlieg vir die Social Cohesion Summit 2012 in Kliptown, Soweto. Dit was Christeline en Brendon se eerste keer in die lug, maar nie eens al die geterg kon hul opwinding demp nie en die vlug was 'n onvergeetlike genot.

Vanaf die OR Tambo Lughawe is die span per taxi na die Soweto Hotel waar hulle hoor die registrasie is uitgestel na die volgende oggend... Daarvandaan is die span, party vies, ander weer vol lag en praatjies, na die City Lodge in Fourways - waar almal gevoel het soos adel-

likes in dié luukse akkommodasie. Daar is sommer ter plaatse weggespring met Sosiale Samehorigheid deur met die Mosselbaai-span inligting uit te ruil en te praat oor die werk van *vrywilligers* wat nodig is om 'n verandering te maak in ons gemeenskap.

Die Summit is die volgende dag geopen deur President Jacob Zuma en hy het gesê: "This country belongs to all who live in it, no Government could claim authority. It belongs to the people." Premier Helen Zille het gesê: "As die regering nie optree en Sosiale Samehorigheid aktiveer nie, gaan jongmense nie werk in die toekoms hê nie. Geen regering kan alleen Sosiale Samehorigheid skep nie, elkeen het 'n spesifieke rol om Sosiale Samehorigheid te laat realiseer."

Daarna het ander ministers en politieke partye hul menings gegee oor hoe Sosiale Samehorigheid in Afrika geïmplimenteer kan word. Minister Dlamini-Zuma se op-

merking was veral treffend: "Social Cohesion should not just be talk, especially from Government; but it must become an action that we all need to participate in."

Die volgende dag is "Economic Inequalities", "Spatial Divisions", "Social Interaction and Co-operation and Solidarity", "Prejudice and Discrimination", "National Identity and Unity" in vyf kommissies bespreek waar landsburgers hul menings gelug het. Die Summit was 'n goeie toekomstige leermeester, en almal sien uit na vyf jaar vorentoe, wanneer teruggerapporteer gaan word oor wat dié Summit se gevolg was.

Hiermee word die Fransie Pienaar Museum bedank vir hul bydra tot vervoerkoste na George en terug Prince Albert toe.

- Christeline Esterhuizen -

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Become part of the 'Town-of-the-Year' finalist!

"Right now the Karoo is the place to be - and Prince Albert is the town to invest in."



1

PRICE: R2 150 000 neg.

This unique and recent addition to the village overlooks a sparkling pool and the distant hills. With two en-suite bedrooms, spacious double-volume living space (lounge, dining area and kitchen), cement floors, sash windows and shutters throughout. Garage, wine room, study and a loft studio round it all off, as does the garden with grey water system.



2

PRICE: R2 500 000

Set in the historic De Queekvallei, this thatched home dates back to 1774. The 2200 SQM erf with indigenous garden offers spectacular views. With large master bedroom, guest bedroom with attic (both en-suite), and an open-plan lounge/dining room and kitchen. A fully equipped one bedroom Granny Flat, laundry, garage and small pool add to its charm.



3

PRICE: R1 150 000

Nestled in Klip street and with sublime views of the western slopes of town (on a 840 SQM erf), this solid, secure property makes for a typical 'lock-up-and-go' home. Surrounded by an indigenous garden with north facing courtyard, it has 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, an open plan air-conditioned kitchen and split level dining room and lounge.



4

PRICE: R1 895 000

This quaint home has been restored to its glorious past; all with covered stoep, sash windows and wooden floors. Spacious main bedroom leads to tiled bathroom with tub, shower, toilet and basin. Open plan dining area (facing an open fireplace) incorporates a dream kitchen. Perched on a double plot, the sizeable cottage adds to the allure.



5

PRICE: R1 900 000

This pristine Victorian house (ca. 1858) with original fireplace, wooden floors, pressed ceilings and period bath tub even has gold plated taps to match. Four bedrooms, a large family room, formal lounge and kitchen with indoor braai boasts a pantry, cellar and separate laundry. The double garage/workshop leads to the a garden cottage and pool.



6

PRICE: R3 950 000

The 'National Centre', a central business hub, can accommodate ten commercial tenants - each with individual access. And 'Cactus Blue', the two luxury self contained cottages tucked behind the centre open onto shaded terraces and plunge pool. Both feature spacious open plan living/dining areas and en-suite bedrooms. A perfectly secluded Karoo getaway.



Ria Steyn

Call me on **072 842 3056** or **023 541 1227**;
(or speak to Lindsay on **082 456 8848** and Heini on **083 440 4446**)

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Dennehof
karoo estates
WELCOME TO PRINCE ALBERT

(Lights... Camera... Action! Continued from p 1) while cameraman, Wim du Plessis, made the most of the good weather to get some aerial shots from the comfort of Dennis Venter's 4-seater Cessna airplane.

Back at the pass, and right on schedule, our "action" extras started to arrive. First there were the adrenalin junkie cyclists, then the happy hikers and as if on cue, a beautiful rainbow closed the sequence. I couldn't help wondering if the pot of gold at the end of it might contain the R2 million worth of publicity that the winning town would receive.

After that we enjoyed a wonderful picnic lunch at the *dansbaan* courtesy of the Lazy Lizard. Then it was back into town to meet with Jafta Pietersen and discover the healing properties of our veld plants.

Due to unforeseen circumstances the next appointment had to be swapped for a visit to Striking Metal, which was only scheduled for the next day. Because of the short notice, Booley didn't have time to clean up and was caught off-guard. But with soot on his forehead and looking absolutely authentic the services of the make-up artist were not required!

For the first time ever, Avoova opened its workshop to give us an idea of what goes into producing their unique ostrich eggshell products. Then, with the sun starting to set, it was time to meet Ailsa in her black cape for an eerie walk through the streets of Prince Albert. We were chatting away in front of Angela's house when director, Hanné Koster, called, "Silence please," so that she could record the sound of the *leiwater* bubbling down the water furrow!

Thursday morning dawned beautifully clear and we got to Prince Albert Olives in time to catch the sun coming up over the groves. All progressed smoothly until Pieter decided to taste an olive directly from the tree. The look on his face was priceless because although 'we' know that raw olives are extremely bitter, Pieter didn't! Unfortunately for him, Hanné found this very amusing, and he

was made to do it over and over again until they were happy with the shot.

Then it was the turn of Karoo Looms where Sophia Booley welcomed us saying, "...people in Prince Albert are living their dream!" And Christa Skaarnek explained enthusiastically about the art of weaving. There was just enough time for a quick chat to kilted Peter McEwan walking his Scottish terrier, before it was off to the Fransie Pienaar Museum and a donkey cart ride with Lydia as she explained the various architectural styles in Prince Albert.

Suddenly we were alerted to the fact that ex-Springbok Captain Francois Pienaar was enjoying a drink on the stoep at the Swartberg Hotel. The bright red *Rapport* bus immediately did a U-turn and we rushed back like true paparazzi. Hanné had a brief chat with Francois and the next minute the cameras were rolling.

After a scrumptious lunch at Lah-di-dah, Pieter tried chatting up their mannequin on the way out. But, try as he might, she refused to accompany him to the moonlit market later.

Next in line were Jeremy Freemantle and African Relish followed by a visit to Gay's Dairy. Whilst at the dairy, a cold wind started to blow off the mountain and my spirits dropped. I couldn't imagine a

very successful moonlit market in freezing cold wind. But at that exact moment Ds. Johan Botes arrived to buy some milk. On seeing my downhearted appearance he offered a prayer heavenwards on my behalf. Later that evening when I bumped into him at the market, in almost perfect weather conditions, he told me that I had the faith of a mustard seed!

The moonlit market with its bustle, *rieldancing*, fabulous food and loads of Prince Alberters was the perfect end to an amazing two days of filming. It was a privilege to share my love of this magical place with the crew. And I'd like to think that some of them experienced that intangible "something" that will bring them back again and again!

The final round of voting in the competition begins on Sunday, 29 July and ends at 12 noon on Tuesday, 7 August. During this period Prince Albert will need to secure more votes than the other eight finalists in order to win. To vote simply sms Prince Albert to 33157.

-Zelia Mullins-

The writer is Prince Albert's Tourism Manager.

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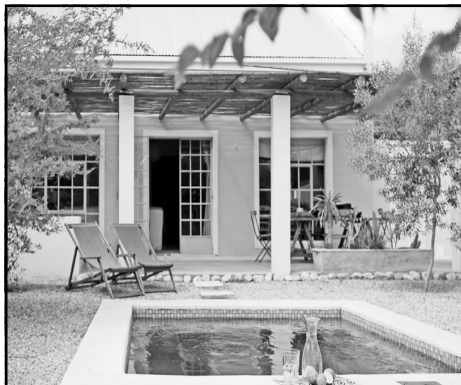
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**R 3.95m**

Commercial and hospitality property in prime position in the town, opposite the hotel. Commercial section has ten shops with varying floor plan sizes, each with own electricity meter, and some with street frontage. At the rear of the building, two very stylish and secluded self catering cottages separated by courtyard and plunge pool. The smaller cottage sleeps two very comfortably, the larger cottage can accommodate four. Both cottages very well equipped and furnished.

**R 3.95m**

Superb country home situated on prime 7655m² of land with olive trees, orange orchard and established mature gardens, dam and excellent leiwat allocation. The home offers expansive living and accommodation areas with open plan entertainment areas leading to vine covered verandah, pool and garden. Five bedrooms, three bathrooms, study, country style kitchen with pantry and laundry. PLUS very well appointed separate income generating cottage in the garden!

**R 1.3m**

Exceptional value for money in this much loved home tucked away at the foot of the koppie. Three bedrooms with family bathroom, living room, study or fourth bed, and eat in farm style kitchen with Dover stove and Oregon cupboards. East facing covered entrance veranda, and large 2000m² garden with established trees, orchards and vines with strong borehole and installed irrigation. Double garage, staff toilet and out door shower, corrugated iron and stone shed, sheltered north facing patio with braai facility.

**R 1.2m**

1906 Karoo cottage with two bedrooms and many original features, including wooden floors, sash windows and lovely shutters. In addition to the house, a separate garden flat nestles in a magical garden with masses of trees, Karoo style pool, "bakoond" and storage facility. On two stands measuring 800m² in total, this home is in an excellent position and has enormous appeal.

**R 1.1m**

Ideal bolt-hole in Prince Albert in elevated position with commanding views in all directions. Compact two bedroom two bathroom home with central courtyard. Open plan living area with fireplace and well fitted open plan kitchen. Ceramic tile floors throughout, wooden windows and indigenous koppie surrounds. Loads of potential to extend if required.

**R 1.9m**

Large Victorian home in very central position with very versatile accommodation possibilities. Four to five bedrooms, two bathrooms and large well fitted kitchen with internal barbeque facility. Elegant living room with exceptional Victorian fireplace, and beautiful original ceilings and wooden floors! Separate cottage in the garden with large open plan living area, bedroom and bathroom. Very secluded garden with pool, double garage and large workshop area.

VAN “DONKIETREIN” EN VOETPAAIE TOT OTTO DU PLESSIS-PAD

Op 9 Augustus vanjaar sal dit presies vyftig jaar gelede wees dat die Otto du Plessis-pad na Gamkaskloof geopen is.

Gamkaskloof, die pragtige, afgeleë en vrugbare vallei, lê weggesteek diep in die hart van die Swartberge. Die vallei is miljoene jare gelede gevorm deur die verwerking van die sagter skalierotslaag wat tussen sandsteenlae geleë was en lê parallel met die bergreeks van oos na wes. Dit is ongeveer twintig kilometer lank en 600 meter wyd op sy breedste. Die Gamkarivier, wat sy loop miljoene jare gelede deur die Swartberge see toe gebaan het, vloei van noord na suid deur die vallei en sny dit min of meer in twee dele.

Die vallei was van die vroegste tye af bewoon deur die KhoiSan. Bewyse hiervan is die rotstekeninge en werktuie wat hulle hier nagelaat het. Dit is nie bekend presies wanneer die eerste witmense hulle hier gevestig het nie, maar reeds in 1830 het die trekboer Petrus Swanepoel hom gevestig op die plaas wat vandag bekend staan as Boplaas. Die eerste plaas is in



Die Otto du Plessis pad met die kronkelende Elandsrivier in die voorgrond

1841 opgemeet en geregistreer. Mettertyd het meer boere hulle hier gevestig, totdat daar 'n gemeenskap van ongeveer 120 mense gewoon het met familienaam soos Marais, Nel, Cordier, Swanepoel en Sny-

man. In 1904 is die eerste skool op Boplaas, gebou en in 1921 is 'n nuwe skool en onderwysershuis op Middelplaas gebou.

Die Gamkasklowers was hardwerkend, en

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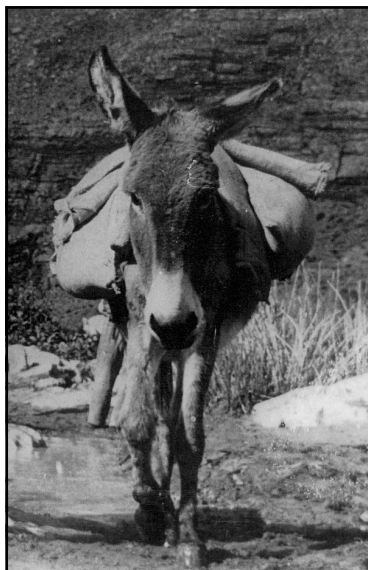
HEALTH

SHORT TERM

het hul eie huise gebou met kleibakstene wat hulle self gemaak het. Dakkappe is gemaak van hout uit die omgewing en dekriet is in die berg gesny. So het hulle ook hul eie plaasimplemente van hout gemaak en donkies is ingespan om die lande te ploeg. Die heerlikste gedroogde adamsvye, hanepootrosyntjies en bone is geproduseer - ook naartjies, lemoene, koring, mielies, lusern, tabak en uiesaad. Met boerbokke is daar ook geboer.

Produkte is met pakdonkies, wat elk tot 100 pond in sakke kon dra, uit die kloof vervoer na Prince Albert, Calitzdorp en soms na Laingsburg. Die pakdonkies, tot veertig van hulle, is agter mekaar vasgemaak sodat hulle beter beheer kon word en nie afdwaal nie. Vandaar die naam *donkietrein*. Vir die Klowers was die enigste roetes uit die kloof die Gamkari- vierbedding en hulle het al langs die rivier gestap om die produkte na die buitewêreld te neem. Die noordelike uitgang was bekend as die Bo-poort na Prince Albert (10 km), die suidelike uitgang was die Onder-poort na Calitzdorp (7 km) en dan was daar nog 'n derde uitgang in die weste - wat Die Leer genoem is - na Laingsburg en Ladismith. Dit was 'n baie steil voetpaadjie wat ongeveer 400 meter teen 'n berghang uitgestap moes word. Langs hierdie roetes het die Klowers twee of drie keer per jaar uit die kloof gestap met hul produkte of om kinders te laat doop, nagmaal by te woon of vir troues. Op die terugtog het die mans Doverstowe, hangkaste en ander huisraad gedra, en die vroue het die babas gedra. Die veeinspekteur, die predikant op huisbesoek en die dokter wat vir siekes ontbied is, moes ook hierdie roetes gebruik.

Die eerste voertuig in Gamkaskloof was 'n Morris Eight 1938-model, maar het nie op 'n pad ingery nie, hy is ingedra, gestoot en gesleep deur vier mans van Buite en nog 'n paar Klowers en hul vier donkies. Dit was 11 Oktober 1958. Die volgende jaar het dr J H Otto du Plessis, Administrateur van die Kaapprovisie, die kloof besoek en die Klowers 'n pad beloof om hul lewens te vergemaklik. Met hierdie geleentheid is hy vergesel deur onder andere mnre J Grobbelaar (LPR vir Beaufort-Wes), F van der Merwe (ondervoorsitter van die Afdelingsraad), S P S Luttig (burgemeester van Prince Albert) en nege joernaliste. Die geselskap het te perd by die Bo-poort ingery - die adminis-



'n Pakdonkie vervoer produkte van Gamkaskloof deur die rivierkloof na Prince Albert

trateur op 'n wit perd genaamd Venus verskaf deur Wilkie Rossouw (Alta Rossouw se man wat ook saamgery het). Naby Stefaans Swanepoel se huis het die amptelike verwelkoming kompleet met 21 saluutskote plaasgevind. Veeinspekteur Piet Botha het aan die administrateur gesê: "As ou gevestigde Sap is dit vir my vandag 'n groot voorreg om julle klomp Nattes die Hel binne te lei"! Die aand is daar groot makietie gehou.

Nog 'n rede vir 'n pad die kloof in was die beplanning van die Gamkapoortdam by die samevloei van die Gamka- en Dwykari- rivier. Hierdie dam is gebou om vloedwaters te beheer en standhoudende leiwaters te verskaf aan boere in die Calitzdorp-distrik. Dit is voltooi in 1970 en so is die voetpadroetes die kloof in finaal afgesluit.

Die Otto du Plessispad is ontwerp deur ingenieur Louis Terblanche en afgesteek deur R V O'Reilly, die tegniese assistent-ingenieur van Oudtshoorn. Vroeg in 1960 is daar toe met die bou van die pad begin. Die roete wat gekies is, het van die Swartbergpas afgedraai langs 'n bestaande Bosboupad van ongeveer tien kilometer tot by Kliphuisvlei. Van daar het J H (Kosie) van Zyl met net 'n Allis Chalmers HD11 stootskraper, pikke, grawe en 'n werkspan van so tien van die Prince Albert Afdelingsraad die pad in dertig maande voltooi in 1962. Die moeilikste gedeelte van die pad was ongetwyfeld die Elandspadpas wat 600 meter teen 'n styl berghang na die vloer van die kloof afsak.

Op 9 Augustus 1962 is die pad geopen deur die administrateur, Nico Malan. Otto du Plessis is oorlede voordat hy op die pad wat sy naam dra, kon ry. Sy weduwee, Bernice du Plessis, het die lint geknip by die openingseremonie.

Vandag, vyftig jaar later, is die pad na hierdie wonderskone kloof nog daar, maar die meeste van sy mense is weg. Hul rustige, afgesonderde lewenstyl het legendaries geword en mense dink vandag daaraan as 'n idilliese bestaan. Nou ry vakansiegangers met die Otto du Plessispad Gamkaskloof in, geen geswoeg en gesweet met voetpaaie meer nie, om die ongekende stilte te ervaar en kos vir die siel te kry.

Gamkaskloof en al sy geboue is verklaar tot 'n Provinsiale Erfenisgebied (ou Nasionale Gedenkwaardigheid). Die kloof val ook in 'n Wêrelderfenisgebied (Kaapse Fynbos).

- Lydia Barrella -

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Kerkbasaar nr 150 - kom vier saam!

Nog voordat die huidige NG Kerk ingehuldig is, is die eerste kerkbasaar in 1862 gehou as deel van die nagmaalsnaweek om fondse te in vir veral die bou van die kerk en die bedryf van die sendingskool. Later is dankfeesbasaars in verskillende buitewyke gehou – en tot vandag toe nog is die kerkbasaar ‘n belangrike deel van die gemeentelewe. Dit het al die vorm aangeneem van ‘n koffiehuis, gemeente-ete, boerebasaar of kermis.

In 1945 kon daar nie basaar gehou word nie omdat daar ‘n verbod was op die sif van meel tydens die oorlog en gemeentelede is gevra om hul bydrae in kontant te maak. Twee wyke, Zeekoegat en Fraserburgweg, het egter tog basaar gehou – en selfs meer ingesamel as ooit tevore...

‘n Basaarvendusies is al met die heel eerste basaar gehou: Ware soos vee,

vleis, vrugte, groente (veral reuse pampoe- ne!) en gebak wat op die ”kerkverkoop” op bod was, is geadverteer en die afslaer is deur die kerkraad aangewys. In 1899 is bepaal dat die ”vendusie-meester” 5% kommissie sal verdien. In 1911 het Klaas Haak aangebied om die afslaerswerk vir 2.5% kommissie te doen, maar sy aanbod is van die hand gewys. In 1917 het hy wel die werk gekry, maar daarna is die afslaers op ‘n rotasiebasis aangestel. Intussen het die vedusietradisie egter verval...

Hierdie jaar se 150 ste basaar is ‘n reuse geleentheid en daar is baie om na uit te sien. Op Vrydag, 10 Augustus, kan smulpape by die markie langs die museum om die kampvure heerlike potjiekos, potbrood en heel skaapkoppe eet. Daar sal ook potbrode te koop wees.

Op Saterdag, 11 Augustus, is dit tyd vir die amptelike basaar voor en binne die kerk-

gronde. Van vroeg af sal koffie en pannekoek beskikbaar wees, maar produkte soos vleis, koek, braaivleis en poeding sal eers te koop wees vanaf 08h30. Om 09h00 is dit tyd vir koffiepitte brand en kussinggevegte! En van 10h00 gaan dit nog joliger met ‘n “mooiste” baardkompetisie, modeparade, hoëhakresies en sweepklapkompetisie. Die inskrywingsfooie is R5 – en daar is lekker pryse te wen.

Nooi gerus al wat kind, familielid en vriend is na hierdie besonderse gemeente-/dorpsreünie van die NG Gemeente Prince Albert – ‘n gemeente wat al reeds vir meer as 170 jaar lank die wonderlike seën, liefde en genade van die Here in oorvloed ontvang.

*Historiese inligting met erkenning aan *Gemeente onder die Swartberg 1842-1992* deur PJ en M Botes.

- Denise Ohlson -

PRINS ALBERT MUNISIPALITEIT

KENNISGEWING NOMMER 30/2012

VOORGESTELDE AFWYKING VAN DORPSAANLEGSKEMA

**ERF 2337, MAGRIETA PRINSLOOSTRAAT,
PRINS ALBERT
ME. JEANETTE LOUW
(t/a PRINS ALBERT MOTORS)**

Kennis geskied hiermee ingevolge Artikel 15(1)(a)(ii) van Ordonnansie 15 van 1985 dat die Raad ‘n aansoek van **ME. JEANETTE LOUW (t/a PRINS ALBERT MOTORS)** ontvang het vir ‘n Afwyking van die dorpsaanlegskema.

Naam: Me Jeanette Louw (t/a Prins Albert Motors)
Adres: Magrieta Prinsloostraat, Prince Albert
Erf no: Erf 2337
Doel van aansoek: Bedryf van ‘n kantoor vir ‘n handelaar in ge-
bruikte voertuie

Nadere besonderhede lê ter insae by die Munisipale Kantoor, Kerk-
straat 33, Prins Albert, gedurende kantoor-ure.

Skriftelike besware, indien enige teen die voorstel, tesame met redes,
moet die ondergetekende voor of op **VRYDAG, 24 AUGUSTUS
2012** bereik.

Munisipale Kantoor HFW METTLER
Privaatsak X53 MUNISIPALE BESTUURDER
PRINS ALBERT 20 Julie 2012
6930 Tel. (023) 541-1320

PRINCE ALBERT MUNICIPALITY

NOTICE NUMBER 30/2012

PROPOSED DEPARTURE OF TOWN PLANNING SCHEME

**ERF 2337, MAGRIETA PRINSLOO STREET,
PRINCE ALBERT
MS. JEANETTE LOUW
(t/a PRINCE ALBERT MOTORS)**

Notice is hereby given in terms of Section 15(1)(a)(ii) of Ordinance 15 of 1985 that the Council has received an application from **MS. JEANETTE LOUW (t/a PRINCE ALBERT MOTORS)** for Departure from the Town Planning scheme.

Name: Ms. Jeanette Louw (t/a Prince Albert Motors)
Address: Magrieta Prinsloo Street, Prince Albert
Erf no: Erf 2337
Reason for application: To operate an office for a used car dealer

Details of the proposals are available for inspection in the Municipal
Offices, 33 Church Street, Prince Albert, during office hours.

Written objections, if any, to the proposal together with reasons,
must be lodged with the undersigned not later than **FRIDAY, 24th
AUGUST 2012**.

Municipal Offices HFW METTLER
Private Bag X53 MUNICIPAL MANAGER
PRINCE ALBERT 20 July 2012
6930 Tel. (023) 541-1320

~ Honour our Roots: Karoo Walk ~

The series of articles to honour our roots during our 250th year goes even deeper this month: we are honouring the Great Karoo within which our roots are secured and nurtured...

Early in July Andrew and Ailsa Tudhope heard from old friends, Rosemary Kearney and Pat Oliver that they would be providing back up for a group who planned a walk from Graaff Reinet to Nieu-Bethesda to raise awareness and sponsorship for Treasure the Karoo Action Group. This meant they'd be able to pay a visit on their way back to Cape Town. When they arrived they were full of energy and bounce and insights discovered on this walk of love and hope conceived by Julia Casciola, through the Camdeboo National Park and over Ouberg Pass, where local people provided accommodation along the way. The following are extracts from Rosemary's posts to Facebook.

First Post: The Karoo - "Place of Thirst" - is a boundless and mysterious area covered by vast sheep and game farms, where broad plains roll away toward distant koppies and multi-layered mountains touch the sky. One can stop almost anywhere in the Karoo and listen to the silence while breathing in the aged earth and Karoo bossies and gazing at the far horizon that stretches to eternity. The Karoo's clear night sky is densely studded with countless stars and huge, bright planets; even other galaxies are visible with the naked eye, offering some of the best stargazing in the world. People are drawn here to escape modern life and the attendant technology that has alienated humans from nature. Stories and legends abound.

Within this apparently sparse ecosystem probably close on a thousand plant species abound and tortoise, locusts, 200 bird species including the Verreaux eagle, Cape Mountain zebra, dassies, jackal, caracal, and black rhino are still to be found. At one time the Karoo was home to cheetah, African wild dog and leopard. These predators hunted herds of Springbok in their thousands and Hartebeest which migrated across South



Ailsa, Rosemary, Pat and Julia honouring the Karoo

Africa following the rains and fresh grass. Fossils of some of the earliest forms of one-celled life have been discovered in the Karoo, indicating that life has existed in this region for more than three billion years. The richness of pre-dinosaur fossils in this region is world-renowned. We can't bear the thought of this wonder of life being desecrated through fracking.

Second Post: We start to see windmills and sheep which blend in with the flat buff grassland. As the long straight road stretches to a wide horizon from Beaufort West to Graaff Reinet I say to Pat: 'What would you say about today?' She said 'I would say something about the rain and the mist in the mountains as we left Cape Town (the further north we went the sunnier it became) and the freedom I felt in leaving the city for the open spaces ... about stopping when I feel like it and going at our own pace ... and the music from 'Long Before the Night.'

I would say something about companionship and this recognition between us as the words Bless, Bless, Bless stream out of the open window.' And then she gasps, 'Oh look! Look!' and there at 3.00 in the afternoon, as the shadows lengthen and the sun fades and the mountains encircling the plain grow dark with sharpness, is an almost full moon rising white in the pale sky. I am overwhelmed by This Ancient Love.

Third Post: Before setting off on the first 22K lap of the walk from Graaff Reinet to Dassiesfontein we expressed our gratitude for the land, this 'Ancient Love' and our intentions for the walk. We offered blessing with Julia's peace flags made especially for the Karoo - earth, water, fire,

wind, space and haunting words with each.

We walked to the start of the Murraysburg road where I waved the group goodbye as they set off through the Camdeboo National Park in warm sun with a blue sky overhead and the beautiful Nqweba Dam on the right.

On the way back into the village I lost my way. I asked the waitress at a café for help and then told her a group were walking to Nieu Bethesda. 'Sjoe,' said the waitress, aghast. 'It's to let people know about fracking in the Karoo,' I said. She looked puzzled. When I explained she said she thought she had seen something about that on the television. Then I asked a young boy who was collecting donations for his school if he knew about fracking here in the Karoo. Again he looked puzzled. I told him about our group walking to Nieu-Bethesda and why they were doing it. 'Have you got any leaflets?,' he asked. 'Oh yes,' I said and gave him some. 'You too could start something to let people here in Graaff Reinet know that we don't want the place where we live spoiled.' His face shone as he caught on and told me all the places he could put up a leaflet and what he could do to let people know. An older man who has lived here for 47 years told me that although he wasn't happy about it, there was nothing we could do. I wished that more of the locals knew about the imminent changes on their doorstep.

Fourth Post: Last night I tried to get Internet connection via laptop. It was impossible from inside the farmhouse and someone said there was a 'space' outside where receptivity was better. So we wandered the stony spaces permeated by the smell of the goats in the brilliant light of a full Karoo moon. At any moment Ron could say 'here' because we had found a connection but no sooner did we have one than it might disappear. Taking the time to sit seemed to counter the urgency of capturing a 'spot' so I said I would hold the laptop, standing, while she typed standing! Fortunately it was

(Continued on p 16)

(Honour our Roots... Continued from p 15)

not one of those below zero nights. But even when we had reception there was not enough light to see the keyboard so she tucked the torch under her chin, kept her head down and would attempt to send the post. The computer seemed to spend a long time thinking about whether it was going to do as requested. It took quite a few tries before we were successful. I said I could imagine a Martian watching us from space wondering what on earth we were up to with these antics. Those humans were at it again.

Laptops and the Internet itself couldn't be more of a contrast from the time of dinosaurs. But it does raise questions about how we evolve and what do we say 'Yes' to and to what 'No'. We have reached a point in human evolution where it is up to us to choose our future. How do we choose wisely? And it is not just isolated choices but how choices are interconnected in their socio-eco-politico-spiritual source and impact. Ethical choices require the capacity to stand back from vested interests in genuine openness and also to consider the wider context in many dimensions - environmental, economic, social and spiritual. I don't feel I can trust Shell to make these kinds of choices for future generations.

Fifth Post: Tonight is full moon over the Karoo. How better to celebrate this place than an extract from Ruben Mowszowski's Poem Karoo Moon! See <http://icelines.blogspot.com/2012/05/tuesday-poem-karoo-moon-by-ruben.html>

Last Post:

We reached Nieu Bethesda
place of 'flowing water'
Heart of our walk
where we gave thanks
blessed the land with our prayer flags
this ancient land
of vast open space
primordial emptiness
eternal silence ...

There's more to read and pictures at
https://www.facebook.com/groups/TKAGWalkJuly2012/?notif_t=group_r2j

- Rosemary Kearney -

Die beste plek in die wêreld

Deur die draaie van Meiringspoort, verby Klaarstroom, slingerend teen Kredouwpas af... Verby 'n begraafplaas aan jou linkerkant, verby 'n reservoir aan jou regterkant. Jy hou regs, verby die melkery en die plaasstal en jy is skielik in die mooiste, rustigste hoofstraat in die hele land. Die hoofstraat van Prince Albert.

Prince Albert is 'n baie klein dorpie aan die soom van die Groot Karoo. Dit is hier waar my oupa en oma sewentien jaar lank gewoon het. Nog voordat ek kon loop, het ek my hart op hierdie beeldskoone dorpie verloor.

Die huise in Prince Albert is vir my só mooi: Baie het dik sementomboorsel om die deure en vensters, stoepe met reghoekige blombakke vol kleurrike blomme... Die rustige atmosfeer, die vriendelike mense, die reusagtige bome op die sy-paadjies wat die dorp se ouderdom verklap – dit skep 'n beeld uit 'n fantasiewêreld.

Langs die strate in Prince Albert is daar waterkanale uitgelê met rivierklippe en sement. Op sekere dae kan jy die water hoor nader kom en dan, meteens... loop 'n riviértjie in die leivoor af! Die water is gewoonlik ysig koud. Ek kyk hoe water-eienaars sluise oopmaak en hoe elkeen sy deeltjie kry van hierdie kosbare bron van lewe in dié droë Karoodorpie waar water só skaars is.

Op Saterdag is dit markdag op die oop

stuk grond langs die museum in die hoofstraat. Dit is waar ek vir die eerste keer 'n roosterkoek geëet het met boerewors in. Baie inwoners kom verkoop goed hier wat hulle self gemaak of geplant het. Van gebreide kinderklere tot tuisgemaakte konfyt en "alternatiewe" groentes. Dit weerspieël die diversiteit van die mense in die dorp, wat tog een hegte gemeenskap vorm - amper soos familie.

Die eintlike wonder van Prince Albert is sy berge, die Swartberge. Dit lyk soos 'n brander wat gevorm het en op die punt is om te breek oor die dorp. Tog maak die berge jou rustig. Wanneer jy vroegoggend op die koppie agter Klipstraat gaan sit en jy kyk uit oor die hele dorp, sien jy die huise, die plase, die vlakke daar vër en die reuse berg wat die dorp beskerm. Wanneer die son ondergaan gloei die berg in skakerings van rooi. Kalmte en 'n gevoel van oorweldigende tevredenheid spoel oor jou hart wanneer jy besef ... Prince Albert is die beste plek in die wêreld om te wees.

-DeLize Gouws-

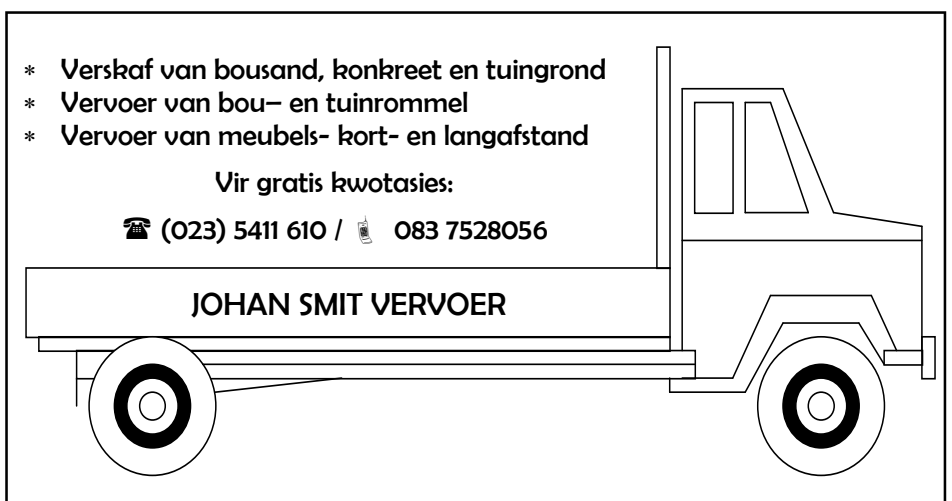
**DeLize Gouws is 'n derdejaar BEd-student aandie Universiteit van Pretoria. Sy het hierdie beskrywende opstel ingehandig vir die vak Afrikaans. Sy kon skryf oor 'n rolmodel, wat sy droom om eendag te wees, of oor die beste plek om te wees. Sy het gekies om oor ons dorp te skryf.*

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JOHAN SMIT VERVOER



~ Inspireer Ons Jeug ~

Gert 'Gog' Richards: 'n volbloed Prince Alberter



Kolonel Gert 'Gog' Richards

Gert 'Gog' Richards, 'n seun van Prince Albert, is vroeër vanjaar tot die rang van Kolonel in die Suid-Afrikaanse Nasionale Weermag (SANW) bevorder en aangestel as die bevelvoerende offisier van die Weermag Ondersteuningsbasis in Kimberley. Kol Richards se vrou, Liezl, drie-jarige dogtertjie, Trisha, sowel as sy susters Elizabeth Richards en Magdaleen van der Ross, beide van Prince Albert, het almal trots toegekyk toe hy, tydens 'n formele seremonie in Februarie, bevel en beheer van die Basis oorgeneem het.

Gert Richards is op 9 August 1959 in Nuwerus gebore, die oudste van Roos en Gert Richards se sewe kinders. Die bynaam 'Gog' kom van sy ma wat altyd vir hom gesê het dat hy haar stoute klein gogga is. Sy skoolloopbaan het hy begin in die Rooikamp skool, maar na die gedwonge verskuiwings in die 1960's, sit hy sy skoolloopbaan voort te Prince Albert Primêr, aan die Bastiaanse Hoërskool in Beaufort-Wes en matriculeer uiteindelik in Oudtshoorn aan die Môrester Sekondêre Skool. Ten spyte van Gert se drome om onderwyser te word, het 'n gebrek aan finansies dit nie toegelaat nie.

Hy vertel dat sy oom Sakkie, 'n afgetrede soldaat, hom geïnspireer het om by die Weermag aan te sluit waar hy 'n salaris sou verdien en kon help om sy broers en susters te ondersteun.

Gert begin sy loopbaan as 'n onder-offisier by die Suid-Afrikaanse Kaapse Korps te Eersterivier in 1979. Om in 1991 offisier te word was een van die hoogtepunte van sy 33-jarige weermagloopbaan, iets wat in die apartheidsjare nie moontlik was nie. Soos wat hy deur die jare bevorder is, het hy verskeie poste in verskillende weermagbasisse in Suid-Afrika beklee. Gert beskryf sy deelname aan die integrasie van die vorige SAW, die guerrillamagte van die ANC en PAC na die huidige SANW tussen 1994 en 1996 by Wallmanstal, buite Pretoria, as sy mees opwindende en ook uitdagende rol. "Dit was 'n geleentheid om 'n bydrae tot die toekoms te maak, om kennis te deel en om mense te bemagtig; dit is onomkeerbaar. Ek glo dat wat ek gedoen het, waardeur word."

Oor die jare verwerf hy verskeie Weermag medaljes en diplomas in militêre en besigheidsbestuur. Tans studeer hy vir 'n Nasionale Diploma in Verkryging/aankope, Logistiek en Aanvoerkettingbestuur.

Gert beskryf homself as 'n "volbloed Prince Alberter." Hy lag as hy onthou dat huise in Prince Albert nog nie van elektrisiteit voorsien was toe hy die huis verlaat het om weermag toe te gaan nie. "Wanneer ek my ouers besoek het oor naweke, het ek oudergewoonte rondgekyk vir 'n kers of lamp om op te steek, voor ek onthou dat ek net nodig het om 'n skakelaar aan te skakel."

Gert besoek sy familie in die dorp minstens een keer per jaar of wanneer die geleentheid hom voordoen. Sy bevoorkeerde ring het hy opgedra aan sy suster Doreen, wat in 2010 oorlede is. "Sy wou my altyd tot kolonel bevorder gesien het. Ek mis haar ongelooflik." Hy gaan voort: "Ek is waar ek is omdat my familie en vriende my ondersteun het. Dit is belangrik vir

jongmense om hulle ouers te respekteer en in God te glo." Gert glo vas dat jongmense, ten spyte van moeilike omstandighede, elke dag die skool moet bywoon, betrokke moet raak by skoolaktiwiteite en hard moet leer. Hy waarsku teen die versoekings van alkohol en dwelms en glo dat dit uiters belangrik is dat jongmense doelwitte het en nastreef en gefokus moet bly op wat hulle wil bereik.

Gert het steeds drome. Hy wil graag 'n Generaal in die SANW word voor sy aftrede oor sewe jaar. Daarna wil hy 'n bydrae lewer in sy tuisdorp en 'n verskil maak in die lewens van die mense wat daar woon. "Wie weet, miskien raak ek nog eendag in die plaaslike politiek betrokke en stel my verkiesbaar as burgemeester" sê hy glimlaggend.

- Linda Jaquet en Barbara Gorniak -

NG Kerk Prins Albert Kerssangaand



Die NG Kerk Prins Albert noui u vriendelik uit om deel te kom neem aan ons Kerssanglofaand, hetsy 'n koor of solo-sang of instrumente of net 'n voorlesing wat u wil lewer, kom wees deel van hierdie kerssangaand die 25 ste November 2012, tot eer van Sy naam.

Kontak enige van die
volgende persone:
Skriba 023 541 1510; Jeanette
Louw 0718951188/0235411874;
Miems Theron
0845929018/0235411881

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16 Julie 2012

Aan alle Werkgewers en Werknemers in die Boubedryf

Die Boubedingingsraad Noord en Wes-Boland se Kollektiewe Ooreenkoms is sedert 8 Augustus 2011 deur toepaslike Wetgewing in u area afgekondig in Staatskoerant no. 34494.

Die Kollektiewe Ooreenkoms omskryf minimum lone en diensvoorwaarde. Sekere Voordele/Fondse word deur die Boubedingingsraad behartig, soos pensioen/voorsorgfonds, begrafnis, ongeskiktheid, sterfte, siekefonds en vakansiefonds voordele. Hierdie voordele moet deur Werkgewers aan hul geskikte werknemers uitgereik word. Werknemers kan ten enige tyd die kantore besoek om seker te maak of hul voordele op datum is. Instansies en individue word versoek en aangemoedig om Werkgewers aan te stel (ten opsigte van enige bouwerk of opknappingswerk), wat heeltemal aan die bepalings van die Raad se Kollektiewe Ooreenkoms voldoen.

U kan ons enige tyd kontak of besoek indien daar enige onduidelikheid bestaan.

Byvoorbait dank.

Die uwe

LIONEL ONTONG
SEKRETARIS

GEBIEDE VAN JURISDIKSIE/AREAS OF JURISDICTION: **Gebied A** - Langeberg plaaslike munisipaliteit – Robertson(Tel/Faks 0236264858); McGregor; Montagu; Ashton; Bonnievale; Breedevallei plaaslike munisipaliteit – Worcester; Rawsonville; De Doorns; Touwsrivier; **Witzenberg** plaaslike munisipaliteit – Tulbagh; Wolseley; Ceres (Tel/Faks 0233161119), Prince Alfred Hamlet; **Swellendam** plaaslike munisipaliteit – Swellendam(Tel/Faks 0285143499); Buffeljagsrivier; Suurbraak; Barrydale; Infanta; Malgas; **Gebied B** - Saldanhabaai plaaslike munisipaliteit – Port-Owen; St. Helenabaai; Stompneusbaai; Paternoster, Vredenburg(Tel 0227133135)(Faks 0227131504), Saldanhabaai; Langebaan; Hopefield; **Landdrosdistrik Moorreesburg** – Moorreesburg(Tel/Faks 0224331133) **Bergrivier** plaaslike munisipaliteit – Piketberg; Velddrif; Aurora; Porterville, Redelinghuys; Eendekuil, Dwarfersbos; **Gebied C** - Laingsburg plaaslike munisipaliteit – Laingsburg, Matjiesfontein; **Prins-Albert** plaaslike munisipaliteit – Prins-Albert(Tel/Faks 0235411771); Leeu-Gamka; Klaarstroom; Merweville; **Matzikama** plaaslike munisipaliteit – Doringbaai; Strandfontein; Ebenhaeser; Lutzville; Koekenaap; Vredendal(Tel/Faks 0272135037); Vanrhynsdorp; Klawer; Tra-wal; Papendorp; **Cederberg** plaaslike munisipaliteit – Clanwilliam(Tel/Faks 0274822299), Graafwater, Lambertsbaai, Elandsbaai, Citrusdal(Tel/Faks 0229212036), Wuppertal; **Gebied D** **Cape Agulhas** plaaslike munisipaliteit – Napier; Agulhas, Struisbaai, Proteem; Klipdale; Arniston/Waenhuiskrans; Bredasdorp(Tel/Faks 0284241083); Elim **Theewaterskloof** plaaslike munisipaliteit – Genadendal; Greyton; Grabouw(Tel/Faks 0218591101); Villiersdorp; Botrivier; Riviersonderend; Caledon(Tel/Faks 028 2123114)

GEREGISTREER Kragtens DIE WET OP
ARBEIDSVERHOUDINGE NR. 66 VAN 1995

Alle korrespondensie moet aan die Sekretaris gerig word.
All correspondence should be addressed to the Secretary.

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31 Julie 2012

Aan alle Werkgewers en Werknemers in die Boubedryf

Die Raad se Kollektiewe Ooreenkoms is op 5 Augustus 2011 afgekondig in Staatskoerant no. 34494 vir verskillende areas, onder andere die Sentrale Karoo Distriksmunisipaliteit, uitsluitend Beaufort-Wes land-drosdistrik area. Die Kollektiewe Ooreenkoms omskryf minimum lone en diensvoorwaardes en andere. Van die diensvoorwaardes bepaal dat elke werkgever aan elke geskikte werknemer in sy/haar diens 'n Pensioen/ Voorsorgfonds moet betaal. Die pensioen/voorsorgfonds sluit die volgende dekkings in: begrafnis, sterfte, ongeskiktheid en uittree voordele.

Die Raad het onlangs 'n uitbetaling van R 5000.00 gemaak ten opsigte van 'n sterfgeval aan een van die werknemers wie se werkgever sy bydraes (byvoordele) presies op datum gehou het. As gevolg van die volgehoue inbetaling van sy werknemers se voordele, het die lid gekwalifiseer vir die begrafnisvoordeel.

Werknemers word weereens daaraan herinner om gereeld by die Bedingingsraad se kantore uit te vind en seker te maak of hul bydraes op datum is.

Byvoorbaat dank.

Die uwe

LIONEL ONTONG
SEKRETARIS

GEBIEDE VAN JURISDIKSIE/AREAS OF JURISDICTION: **Gebied A** - Langeberg plaaslike munisipaliteit – Robertson(Tel/Faks 0236264858); McGregor; Montagu; Ashton; Bonnievale; **Breedevallei plaaslike munisipaliteit** – Worcester; Rawsonville; De Doorns; Touwsrivier; **Witzenberg plaaslike munisipaliteit** – Tulbagh; Wolseley; Ceres (Tel/Faks 0233161119); Prince Alfred Hamlet; **Swellendam plaaslike munisipaliteit** – Swellendam(Tel/Faks 0285143499); Buffeljagsrivier; Suurbraak; Barrydale; Infanta; Malgas; **Gebied B** - Saldanhabaai plaaslike munisipaliteit – Port-Owen; St. Helenabaai; Stompneusbaai; Paternoster, Vredenburg(Tel 0227133135)(Faks 0227131504); Saldanhabaai; Langebaan; Hopefield; **Landdrosdistrik Moorreesburg** – Moorreesburg(Tel/Faks 0224331133) **Berggrivier plaaslike munisipaliteit** – Piketberg; Velldrif; Aurora; Porterville, Redelinghuys; Eendekuil, Dwar-kersbos; **Gebied C** - Laingsburg plaaslike munisipaliteit – Laingsburg, Matjiesfontein; **Prins-Albert plaaslike munisipaliteit** – Prins-Albert(Tel/Faks 0235411771); Leeu-Gamka; Klaar-stroom; Merweville; **Matzikama plaaslike munisipaliteit** – Doringbaai; Strandfontein; Ebenhaeser; Lutzville; Koekenaap; Vredendal(Tel/Faks 0272135037); Vanrhynsdorp; Klawer; Tra-wal; Papendorp; **Cederberg plaaslike munisipaliteit** – Clanwilliam(Tel/Faks 0274822299); Graafwater, Lambertsbaai, Elandsbaai, Citrusdal(Tel/Faks 0229212036); Wuppertal; **Gebied D** **Cape Agulhas plaaslike munisipaliteit** – Napier; Agulhas, Struisbaai, Proteem; Klipdale; Arniston/Waenhuiskrans; Bredasdorp(Tel/Faks 0284241083); Elim **Theewaterskloof plaaslike munisipaliteit** – Genadendal; Greyton; Grabouw(Tel/Faks 0218591101); Villiersdorp; Botrivier; Riviersonderend; Caledon(Tel/Faks 028 2123114)

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SPEKBOOM REHABILITATION

The Spekboom: an Anti-Climate Change Status Symbol

Two species of Spekboom occur in South Africa: *Portulacaria armiana*, the Large-leaved Spekboom, and *Portulacaria afra*, the (normal or common) Spekboom. This article deals with the latter since the Large-leaved Spekboom only occurs in the north-eastern parts of the country. The Spekboom, on the other hand, occurs particularly in the succulent Karoo and thicket biomes. There is even a veld type named after it known as Spekboomveld. Spekboom can be seen growing on the northern slopes of the foothills of the Swartberg Mountains, just south of Prince Albert.

Spekboom clumps serve an important role in the ecosystem: holding the soil particles together with their extensive root system, and so preventing soil erosion, as well as facilitating rainwater infiltration into the soil. They also serve as important fodder plants for livestock and game in times of drought as they have a high moisture content in their leaves and stems. In addition to all that, the Spekboom also plays a vital role as a carbon sequestrator in its natural habitat i.e. the plant removes carbon from the atmosphere and is able to store it.

Spekboom are often grown in towns and gardens where they form an upright, but sprawling succulent shrub that grows up to three metres tall. However, if they are pruned properly, they can grow to form a five metre tall evergreen tree, with a succulent trunk and a dense crown of succulent stems and leaves. Owing to its succulent nature, the Spekboom can also be planted along a fence to form a dense, fire resistant hedge. Early in the summer, when Spekboom starts to flower, the hedge will be transformed from green to pink, as sprays of tiny, star-shaped flowers start to open all over the short side branches of these plants. The lightweight seeds that follow these flowers have three, small, winged, papery capsules, which allow these seeds to be wind dispersed.

The Spekboom is also an ideal plant for beekeepers since its flowers produce a lot



Spekboom (Photo: Sue Dean)

of nectar. It also serves as the host plant for the larvae of the Diadem Butterfly. The Spekboom has great medicinal value since its leaves are used to treat diarrhoea. Its leaves can also be eaten fresh and in a salad.

Overgrazing caused by overstocking has led to the destruction of vast areas of Spekboomveld. The key problem with overgrazing is that it prevents Spekboom from establishing new plants on the ground as livestock eat up all the lower branches of the adult Spekboom plants, forcing them to grow upright in the form of a tree. The Spekboom tree now has an unprotected trunk and is prone to having bark damaged by porcupines and goats, in which case the entire plant is likely to die. Given that the Spekboom's feeding value is relatively high and taking into account its important role in the ecosystem, the rehabilitation of these plants in those areas where they have been removed by overgrazing has become one of the top priorities of many game and livestock farmers, as well as that of conservationists in the government and private sectors. The government's Working for Woodland project is currently employing people to replant large areas of Spekboom in the Baviaanskloof.

In fact, the Spekboom is the ideal plant to use for rehabilitation in the frost-free parts

of South Africa. This remarkable plant is able to colonise new areas around it, not only by means of seed distribution, but also by means of the establishment of cuttings. These cuttings can be easily made from one year old shoots. When making cuttings be sure that they have cleanly cut edges and take off most of the leaves and branchlets. They should be left to dry for a couple of days before planting them. This prevents them from rotting. When they are planted, make sure that at least half to two thirds of the cutting is planted underground in the potting mixture. The best mixture to use when establishing new cuttings is pure river sand. This allows for good drainage and furthermore prevents rot. The Spekboom's succulent stems allow it to take root without the need of extra care such as water provision or stimulants such as growth hormone powder. Naturally these cuttings will take root as soon as one of the adult plant's side branches touch the ground or should a branch break off and end up on the ground. These adaptations make the Spekboom a very effective and relatively affordable plant to use for veld rehabilitation and give it great economic value as a natural resource.

Another reason for rehabilitating Spekboom in their natural habitat is that they are important assets in terms of carbon sequestration. All plants reduce carbon levels in the air by the process of photosynthesis, through which they convert carbon dioxide to starch and sugar that they store in their leaves, stems and roots. However, Spekboom has a large mass above and below ground and so can store much more biological carbon than other plants of similar proportions that occur in the same arid environments.

The Spekboom is a great garden plant, and can even be grown as a ground cover. The Spekboom cultivar known as *Portulacaria afra*, "Green Carpet", does not grow higher than 150mm. It grows sideways, staying close to the ground and continually forming rootlets from stems touching the ground. This cultivar

(Continued on p 21)

Kinderkant van Biblioteek Word Opgekikker



Berlinda Nel versier die kinders se afdeling in die biblioteek (Foto: Ailsa Tudhope)

Op 'n yskoue, reënerige Saterdag in Julie het een van ons dierbare Biblioteekvriende, Berlinda Nel, ingespring om die kinderkant van ons biblioteek 'n heel nuwe voorkoms te gee. Met haar ongelooflike entoesiasme en kreatiwiteit het sy dit omskep in 'n sprokiesparadys vir ons kinders.

Die idee het ontstaan toe sy gedurende ons biblioteekmaand elke middag vir die kinders kom stories lees het. Sommer gou het sy self kom inspring, die mure

waar dit nodig was afgekrap en "damp seal" opgesit. Na vele boeke se deurkyk en beplanning kan jy nie glo dis dieselfde plek nie. Van vaal na vrolik!

Kom loer gerus in en kyk self. Ons kinders se opgewonde reaksie daarop is oor genoeg beloning vir al haar harde werk.

Berlinda Nel has given a colourful 150th birthday gift to the Children's section of our Library: a jungle inspired montage above bright green walls. The effect is, quite simply, WOW! Berlinda, clad in warm clothing, including pink striped socks, spent a freezing Saturday perched on a ladder completing the montage she had pencilled onto the walls the previous day. Now our children will be watched by mischievous monkeys as they choose and read their books. Pop in to see the final product.

Van ons almal hier by die biblioteek en al ons lesertjies: BAIE DANKIE Berlinda, jy is vir ons baie kosbaar en ons waardeer jou baie! Thank you Berlinda for your imaginative, cheerful addition to our happy Library.

- Reinie Smit -

In die Karoo is reën, seën

Die naweek aan die einde van die winterskoolvakansie was skielik chaoties. Dit sneeu in die Karoo, die N1 is gesluit, vakansiegangers kan nie terugkeer Gauteng toe nie, daar is verspoeling in die kusgebiede, mense is dakloos, dis hoofnuus.

By ons in die Karoo hang die wolke laag oor die Swartberg en ons weet, as daardie wolke lig, sien ons somer baie sneeu, dit beteken natuurlik water vir die somer. Kaggels knetter in die koue, maar almal is tevrede want boonop reën dit ordentlik hier in die Prince Albert distrik.

"By Kredouw Plaas aan die voet van die Kredouw Pas het ons 70 mm reën gemeet vanaf Vrydag, 13 Julie, tot Sondag, 15 Julie. Ons waterval loop sterk, ons dam loop oor, en die rivierlope na Oukloof-

dam loop baie sterk. Dit sal moontlik vir die volgende twee weke so voortduur, selfs al kry ons nie verdere reën nie. Wat water aanbetref lyk dit na 'n goeie somer, mits ons 'n gemiddelde somerreënval kry" sê Hardus Mulder.

Lienkie Schoeman vertel: "Ons het omtrent 70mm by Bergwater gehad en meeste van die damme is vol. Daar is nog een dam wat uit ons beurt moet vol kom, maar dit sal gou gaan. Die groot dam loop al uit en die uitloopwater (plus die van die rivier wat baie sterk loop - ons kan nie met die bakkies deurry nie) gaan alles Oukloof toe. Het bietjie sneeu op die berg agter die kelder gehad en ses watervalle!"

In die Weltevredevallei het is nagenoeg
(Vervolg op p 45)

(Spekboom... Continued from p 20)

is the ideal plant to grow on slopes or embankments to stabilise the soil. The Spekboom can also be grown indoors as a bonsai. In fact the Spekboom bonsai has become very popular in recent times, since a Spekboom planted as a bonsai will take on the shape of an adult plant in a matter of only two years!

As the Spekboom is such an important indigenous plant, everyone should have a Spekboom growing somewhere in their garden; or even a Spekboom pot plant on their stoep – somewhere where everyone can see it. Because the Spekboom has become an anti-climate change status symbol!

- Christiaan Viljoen -

Christiaan is a Nature Conservation student at NMMU and an intern at Renu-Karoo Veld Restoration cc








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DORP VAN DIE JAAR

Some Background to the Competition

During the planning stages of Prince Albert's 250-year celebrations, I realised that as the town's Tourism Office Manager, I was probably going to be kept a bit busier than normal. Little did I know at the time just how much busier I was going to be!

After De Rust was named the 2011 *Dorp van die Jaar* I was asked why Prince Albert hadn't won. Well to put it simply, Prince Albert never entered the competition. At that time many people felt that a competition that relied on SMS to garner votes wasn't a true reflection.

Even if we did get a few votes from the public there was no one actually driving the effort and canvassing people to vote. So when *Rapport* announced the start of the new competition in March this year, I took it upon myself to ensure that Prince Albert at least got a mention.

But you know what they say; if you're going to dream, DREAM BIG. So with 2012 being our big year, a group of us began thinking that it would be awesome if Prince Albert could indeed be declared *Dorp van die Jaar 2012*!

Thanks to the enthusiasm of many Prince Alberters who sent in their SMSs we got through the nomination phase of the competition. Then more people entered into the spirit of things. Some of the guest-houses came on board with lots of good ideas and incentives to vote. And private individuals and businesses paid for the Tourism Office to send SMS on their behalves. And it all paid off... Prince Albert, along with Piketberg and Caledon, was a Western Cape semi-finalist!

Before the next round of voting could take place a *Kwêla and Rapport* film crew had to visit each town. Their brief

was to capture on film the essence, or *gees*, of towns to determine the finalist in each region. The film crew came to Prince Albert on 11th July for two full days of filming. Then the big wait began as finalists were announced.

First up was Schweizer Reneke, the Gauteng/North West winner, then St Lucia in Kwazulu-Natal, followed by Hoedspruit in Limpopo and Sabie in Mpumalanga. Kathu took the Northern Cape, Lady Grey the Eastern Cape, Clarens the Free State and Walvis Baai in Namibia.

And I am overjoyed to report that Prince Albert was declared the finalist for the Western Cape.

Thanks to everyone who supported and encouraged our efforts. Now for the big one... with R2 million in advertising to be won you can be sure competition will be fierce. So get ready to SMS yourself verskrik as soon as voting opens on 29 July!

- Zelia Mullins -



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WESKAAP FINALIS / WESTERN CAPE FINALIST



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SMS

Prince Albert

Na / To

33157

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Spandeer asseblief R45 op Prince Albert en stem 30 keer!

Stem vanaf / Vote from

Son. 29 Julie - 12nm, Dins.7 Augustus

Sun. 29 July - 12pm, Tues.7 August

SMS koste / Cost - R1,50 per sms

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Kwêla en Rapport Besoek Prince Albert



Die Kwêla/Rapport span geniet hulle besoek aan Prince Albert.



Kwêla se Pieter Koen maak kennis met die spoke van Prince Albert



Karin Burger van Rapport:
"Raai wie's die wendorp van die jaar!"



Oom Jafta Pietersen deel sy kennis van medisinale plante

Onthou om te stem / Remember to vote for Prince Albert
SMS Prince Albert Na / To 33157

Kwêla en Rapport Visit Prince Albert



Pieter Koen en Judy Maguire op die Swartberg Pas



Plaaslike kunstenaar, Clive Heyne, het bekertjies vir elke lid van die filmspan versier.



Burgemeester Goliath Lottering en Pieter Koen geniet 'n blaaskans by Lah-di-dah



Pieter Koen ontdek dat 'n vars olyf eintlik bitter is!



Pieter Koen praat met Prince Albert se smid, Kashief Booley

Matriekafskeid 2012



Ruben Booysen en Anolisha Paulsen, David-lee Willemse en Roxanne Mooneys,
Edwina Pietersen en Shirphill Koot



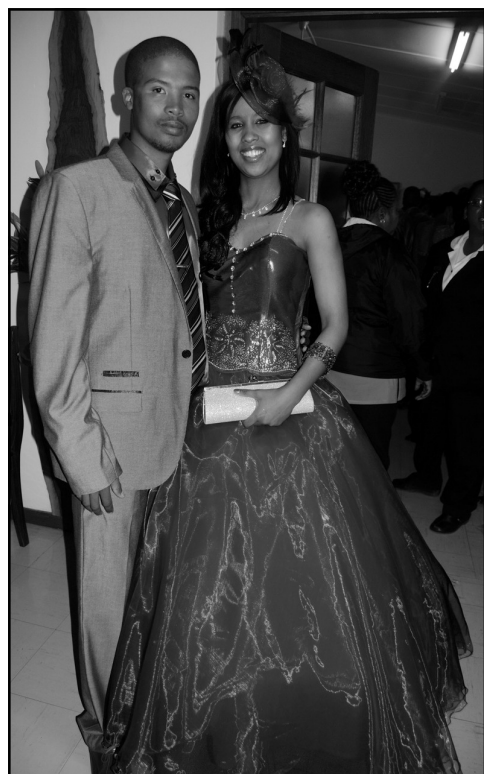
Mignon Meiring, Dicky McKnight en Edwina Pietersen deel'n grappie



Tafels in die skoolsaal is met koetse en pampoene versier



Daneel Ahrendse en William Ransom
in Spaanse drag



Romano Byl en Clentine Solomons
(Foto: Christelle Smit)

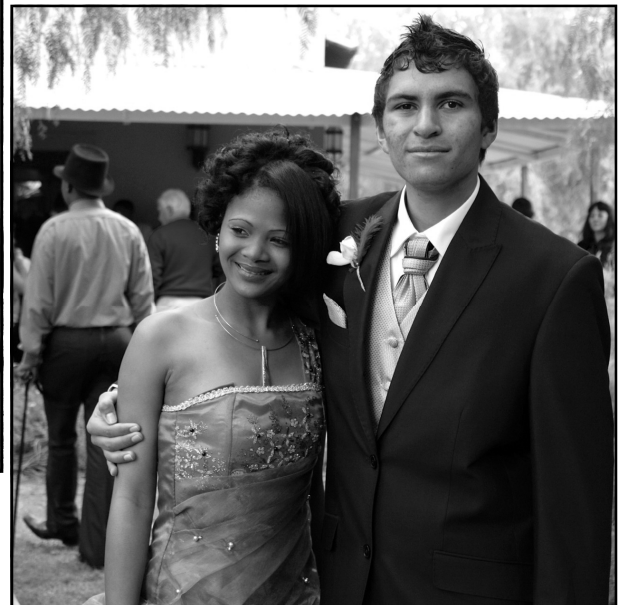
Matriekafskeid 2012



Die matrieks van Hoerskool Zwartberg op pad na hulle afskeidsdinee.



Agter l na r: Elrico Clarke, Micayla van Wyk, Shorida Windvogel, Shaldo Sass, Marilene Wanie, Linzay Titus en Dermott van der Merwe. Voor: Enrico Hinkman



Neil van der Nest en Mary-Ann Voster

Vanuit die Raadsaal

Werkseeping

Die Raad is tans besig om tydelike werkers in diens te neem om te help om ons gebied skoon te hou. Daar is 15 persone per wyk geïdentifiseer wat hoofsaaklik volgens strate ingedeel is. Mense wat in spesifieke strate bly, moet verantwoordelikheid aanvaar vir die netheid van hul omgewing. Daar word hoofsaaklik vanaf die databasis gewerk en word persone as sodanig ingelig. Persone wie se name steeds nie op die databasis is nie, word aangemoedig om hul name op te sit.

Die persone wat geïdentifiseer is om in hierdie projek te werk, val onder die EPWP ("Extended Public Works Programme") en is vir 8 maande aangestel. Ons vertrou dat ons met hierdie poging sal hande vat om ons areas skoon te hou. Die omgewing waarin ons bly, is die plek waar ons kinders speel en ons is as volwassenes verplig om die omgewing so skoon en netjies as moontlik te hou.

As deel van die EPWP het die Munisipaliteit ook tydelike werkers, vir 'n drie-maande periode, by die publieke werke span aangestel. Die bykomende werkers het ten doel om ons dienslewering te verbeter en ons vertrou dat die persone hul Munisipaliteit met trots sal dien.

Wykskomitees

Die kriteria waarteen wykskomitee lede vergoed word is tydens wykskomitee vergaderings bespreek en is tydens die Personeel en Administrasie Portefeulje Komitee vergadering deur die Raad aanvaar. Die Raad sal die kriteria finaal goedkeur en aanvaar by die Raadsvergadering op 25 Julie 2012. Die geld wat gebruik word vir die vergoeding van wykskomitee lede is direk vanaf die Nasionale Regering ontvang en sal geïmplementeer word vanaf Julie 2012.

Ons wil ons dank uitspreek teenoor wykskomitees wat hul wykvergaderings gehou het en veral die lede wat die vergaderings bygewoon het. Ons glo dat ons op hierdie wyse die probleme wat binne wyke ervaar word, meer doeltreffend kan

aanspreek. Wykskomitee lede word ook weereens aangemoedig om toekomstige komitee vergaderings van die Raad by te woon. Probleme wat binne die wyk ervaar word, moet deur die wyksraadslid aan die Raad of administrasie gerapporteer word. Hierdie is oop vergaderings en kan in 'n waarnemingshoedanigheid deur enige lid van die gemeenskap, wat op hoogte van sake wil wees, bygewoon word.

Forums

Die kantoor van die Burgemeester, in samewerking met die Speaker, gaan erns maak met die heraktiveer van die onderskeie forums, om te verseker dat hulle, op 'n permanente, volgehoue basis, doeltreffend funksioneer en sodoende 'n werk-bare platform van kommunikasie tussen belanghebbende partye is. Die inskakeling met die wykskomitees is van kardinale belang en moet nie as plaasvervanger gesien word nie.

Projekte

Die volgende projekte is tans aan die gang:

Opgradering van paaie in Rondomskrik area : Die projek is reeds aan die gang en die pad sal toegerus word met 'n *"5m wide ultra-thin concrete material. UTRC roads have become very popular in that they provide a suitable road surface for residential areas, but can be constructed using labour intensive construction methods in a relatively short time period."* (Progress Report: Aurecon : 28 June 2012)

In Leeu-Gamka word Granaatbosstraat en Bosduifstraat opgradeer met dieselfde tipe materiaal soos aangedui.

Opgradering van sportvelde: Die Sportvelde in Prince Albert, Leeu-Gamka en Klaarstroom word tans opgradeer. Al die velde gaan toegerus word met *"2.1m high vibracrete walls and flood lights to practice standards."*

Stormwater: Prince Albert en Leeu-Gamka - Die projek rondom stormwater in Prince Albert sal in Oktober 2012 afskop en sal hoofsaaklik van plaaslike arbeid gebruik maak. Ons hoop ook om van plaaslike sub-kontraakteurs gebruik te maak ty-

dens die projek, indien hulle daarvoor sou kwalifiseer en geregistreer is op die databasis van die Munisipaliteit.

Behuising: Die Administrasie is tans besig om alle aansoekers se besonderhede te hersien om korrektheid te verseker. Korrekte data sal die toekomstige proses aansienlik bespoedig.

Tydens wykskomitee vergaderings sal aansoekers op hoogte van verwikkelinge in die verband gehou word.

Werkssessie met Sub-Kontraakteurs

Die Departement Tegnies, onder leiding van Mnr Noël Klink, beplan 'n werkssessie met alle sub-kontraakteurs, wat geregistreer is op die Munisipaliteit se databasis, om alle tegniese probleme wat sub-kontraakteurs wel mag ondervind, aan te spreek. So 'n sessie is alreeds in die Leeu-Gamka area aangebied met die doel om ons plaaslike sub-kontraakteurs die regte leiding te kan gee. Sub-kontraakteurs word dan weer aangemoedig om te verseker dat hul name op die databasis geregistreer word.

Jaareinde

Ons hoop om in die volgende uitgawe van die *Prince Albert Friend* verslag te kan doen oor of die Munisipaliteit met 'n tekort/surplus vir die 2011/2012 finansiële jaar afgesluit het. Die Finansiële departement is tans hard besig om voor te berei vir die ouditering van ons finansies en ons sien uit na die resultaat van ons auditverslag. As Raad en administrasie is ons opgewonde en vasbeslote om in die nuwe finansiële jaar doelgerig te werk aan 'n *"Clean Audit."*

Samevatting

Ek wil dan van hierdie geleentheid gebruik maak om alle raadslede, asook die administrasie, te bedank vir hul harde werk die afgelope jaar. Ek glo dat ons saam kan uitsien na 'n baie positiewe 2012/2013 finansiële jaar. Ek is verheug dat ons oor die politieke grense heen saamgewerk het in die beste belang van die hele gemeenskap.

Ek wil in die besonder vir raadslid Rabie

bedank vir die energie wat sy ingesit het ten opsigte van ons LED Strategie (Plaaslike Ekonomiese Ontwikkelingsstrategie) en haar bydrae tot die herlewing van die bakkery op Leeu-Gamka. Wel gedaan en bou asseblief hierop voort.

Die administrasie en finansies, onder leiding van onderskeidelik Mnr Heinrich Mettler en Mnr Jannie Neethling, baie, baie dankie vir jul lojaliteit teenoor die Munisipaliteit. Saam sal ons die Munisipaliteit een van die beste klein munisipaliteite in die land maak.

Goliath Lottering,
Uitvoerende Burgemeester



Vroeër se Vendusies

Die vendusies in Prince Albert was vroeër belangrike gebeurtenisse wat aan die publiek gebied was, met die verskil dat jou kaartjie gratis was. Onderstaande vertelling is baie effentjies aangepas, net om die vurigheid daarvan die aandag te gee wat dit verdien het.

Op 'n bloedige warm dag in Februarie maand, êrens in die sestigerjare, het die groepie (amper sê ek feesgangers) vendusiegangers staan en sweet in die agterplasia. Die vendusie het vinnig en vlot verloop, want die kopers het geweet wat hulle wou hê, en wou so gou moonlik hul nuwe (tweedehandse) besittings oplaai en terugkeer na die koeligheid van hulle huise met die dik mure en rietplafonne.

Maar toe kom Prokureur Tjaart van der Walt, afslaer, by die elektriese verwarmers. Hy sê: "Aandag mense, hierdie verwarmers is feitlik splinternuut en in goeie werkende orde. Wie begin met

R2?" Doodse stilte. Tjaart herhaal sy rym-pie nog 'n keer en weer 'n keer. Geen reaksie. Dis toe dat Tjaart hom letterlik en figuurlik vuurwarm vererg, sy "pose" verloor en die ding by die naam noem. Hy stoot die verwarmers eenkant toe uit sy pad en sê: "En mag julle almal komende winter vrek van die koue omdat julle my nie R2 wil gee vir 'n blixxxx heater' nie!"

Dis 'Moonlit Market' op die koudste aand van hierdie winter wat my laat dink het: "En mag julle almal komende somer nog genoeg (elektriese) krag hê om die 'fans' somer op straat te laat loop, want die skaduwee-bome is hier ook nie meer nie."

- Adri Schoeman -



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Leeu-Gamka bak opnuut brood

In laat Junie 2012 is die Rosemore Gemeenskapsbakkery in Bitterwater se dieselpomp afgestof, die broodpanne met pan-olie gesmeer waarin 660gm deegvorm netjies "in die middel" gepak is en siedaar, 40 minute later word 80 perfek gerysde brode uitgekeer!

Die geboutjie waarin die bakkery gehuisves word is 'n paar jaar gelede deur die Raad aangeskaf en met 'n moderne industriële menger, deegroller, stoom ryskamer en snelbakoond toegerus. Twaalf vroue is opgelei in die kuns van broodbak. Die Outenikwa Bakkery in George het hiermee gehelp. Vanweë onnodige politiekery het die bakkery vir meer as 'n jaar in onbruik gestaan.

Gedurende Mei hierdie jaar het die Agbare Burgemeester opdrag gegee dat die plaaslike ekonomiese ontwikkelingsbeleid van die Raad in plek moet kom, sodat wanneer die nuwe finansiële jaar op 1 Julie aanbreek, die nodige prosesse reeds in plek is om praktiese, toeganklike en volhoubare projekte te implementeer.

Aangesien 'n versoek ontvang is vir die vestiging van granaat- en sonkragplase in die omgewing, het die Raad besluit om sy plaaslike ekonomiese ontwikkelingsbenadering in Leeu-Gamka te toets.

Op versoek van Raadslede Abrahams en Stols van Leeu-Gamka, het die Raad besluit om die bakkery as 'n eerste stap in 'n lang proses van mentorskap, die ontwikkeling van entrepreneurskapsvaardighede en die vestiging van onafhanklike en volhoubare mikro en klein ondernemings, weer aan die gang te kry. Een van die doelwitte is om te bepaal of die verskaffing van vars gebakte brood teen R6 per brood vir die gemeenskap aanvaarbaar is en of hulle die bakkery sal ondersteun.

Terselfdertyd het Chrissie du Plessis, oftewel Loetoe, die Raad genader met 'n pleidooi om haar die kans te gun om die bakkery weer te begin. Sy is gevra om 'n verdere vier vroue te vra of hulle sou belangstel om die spreekwoordelike broodwa deur die drif te help trek. Katri-

na, Arastacia, Jurika en Jolandi sluit by voorslag by Loetoe aan! So het dit dan gebeur dat die wenspan van vyf baie besondere vroue aan die werk gespring het om die gebou en toerusting wat vir meer as 'n jaar toegestaan het spieëlblink te "spit and polish." En dit sonder om een keer te vra "what's in it for me?"

Raadslid Stols, Loetoe en die munisipale bestuurder het intussen ook 'n besoek aan Francois Ferreira, glanskok en hoof van die "Eden School of Culinary Art" in George gebring. Hy gaan help met die ontwikkeling van resepte en verdere opleiding sodat die bakkery 'n regte kontreibakkery kan word.

Intussen bak hulle elke dag 80 brode wat flink verkoop! Oor die afgelope paar koue naweke het hulle begin om heerlike kerrievetkoeke te maak en dit stap by die deur uit teen die bekostigbare prys van R5.

Die passie van die vyf vroue onder die waaksame en uiters bekwame oë van Loetoe, is werklik aansteeklik! Die munisipaliteit het besluit om vir 'n periode van tyd te help met die logistieke reëlings, om die bestanddele vanaf Prince Albert na Leeu-Gamka te vervoer, en om met ingang 1 Augustus tweeweeklikse klasse in ondernemingsbestuur vir die span aan te bied. Hulle sal geskool word in onder meer finansiële bestuur, die opstel van 'n begroting, geldbestuur, kliëntediens en 'n reeks ander relevante onderwerpe.

Die daaglikse bak kapasiteit van die Rosemore bakkery is 240 brode en dan is die oonde nie na-ure aan nie!

Wys net wat met passie en aanmoediging gedoen kan word!

Volgende keer meer oor Tannie Lydia en die Vyebossie groep se naaldwerk projek.

- Annelie Rabie -

Die skrywer is 'n raadslid in die Prince Albert Munisipale Raad.

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Di Johnson-Ackerman: “Mood is an integral part of my message”

Di Johnson-Ackerman lives in Somerset West, but her heart is in the Karoo. She and her husband come to their house in Prince Albert once a month where she finds much of her inspiration for the delicate etchings and evocative acrylic paintings she exhibits in the gallery.

Her father, a builder, yearned to have been an architect. Through his eyes, she learned to understand and see perspective, structure, shadow and light. It is evident in the precision with which she executes a painting or gradually builds the tones and values of her delicately crosshatched etchings.

“She’s a superior draftsman” is how both Mary Anne Botha and Brent Phillips-White describe her work. Di says she drew as a child, again at the urging of her father, but it was at Rhodes



Di Johnson-Ackerman in front of one of her paintings

University, where she studied art that she mastered drawing: “There was a strong focus on drawing and painting from still life and life. The whole of our first year was spent drawing only in pencil!”

“I believe artists should be able to draw; it’s vital to have the training to see things as they are and interpret them on paper. Even if you eventually become an abstract artist you must understand the basics before you can simplify and the abstraction becomes more meaningful.”

“Call me a traditionalist, but I find it so much more satisfying to describe what I see. Etchings fulfill my love of line drawings and the paintings another form.”

She says she enjoys being able to bounce back and forth between the two mediums, looking forward to each when working in the other. She’s also planning to apply what she learned from Joshua Miles’ recent workshop on reductive woodblock printing where she

(Continued on p 34)



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Gallery's Art Festival Attracts Big Names



An urban landscape by Hermann Niebuhr, one of the artists participating in the Prince Albert Art Festival in September



Local photographer Gareth Williams' "Scholzbos"

As part of Prince Albert's 250th birthday celebration, the Prince Albert Gallery (which also happens to be marking its 10th anniversary) will be hosting an art festival.

The festival is scheduled for the weekend of the 28 September and explores the theme of *The Vulnerable Landscape*:

"The Karoo is dry landscape, vulnerable to climate change and human intrusion. Water for food and settlement is scarce. Fossil water held in deep aquifers is irreplaceable. Exploiting this water and resources such as natural gas requires precaution.

Somehow we are visitors in this aged landscape. Here our sense of well-being is enhanced.

We walk with care, respecting the diversity of plants and animals underfoot, we experience the silence, we wonder at the open night skies. In this vast space the human imprint is lost, or scaled-down, so that we live alongside, we live with a light footprint.

- What development can be sustained in this dry land?

- How will we contribute to shaping our climate and the web of life here?
- While our small town is poor and underdeveloped, can we afford to grow at any cost to the landscape and environment?

Right here and now in the Karoo, let's not leave the planning to scientists and economists alone. We need a vision for the long term, and we invite artists to participate, to develop our confidence and challenge our resourcefulness as human beings. Give form to our interdependent relationship with the landscape. Look beyond profit on the one hand and our dependence on hydrocarbons on the other. "

"We want art to play a role, to protect, perpetuate and supplement this dry landscape," says Gallery owner, Brent Phillips-White. "We are delighted that so many outstanding artists have agreed to participate."

They include:
Sally Arnold
Philip W Badenhorst
Louis Botha
David Chancellor

Peter Clarke
Neels Coetzee
George Coutouvidis
Sheila Coutouvidis
Richard John Forbes
David Goldblatt
Charmaine Haines
Clive Heyne
Neil Jonker
William Kentridge
Judy Maguire
Estelle Marais
Nico Masemola
Gill Maylam
Di McLean
Joshua Miles
Hekkie Moos
JP Meyer
Hylton Nel
Hermann Niebuhr
Samantha Reinders
Mikhael Subotsky
Jill Trappler
Christine Thomas
Strijdom van der Merwe
Gareth Williams

Further queries - to Brent on 082 749 2128 or karoogallery@intekom.co.za

(Di Johnson-Ackerman... Continued from p 32)

says she'll be able to work with a looseness absent from her current work.

Di works mainly from photographs – which she takes – imagining the painting or print as she sets up the composition, watching for the play and contrasts in light and shade such as the shadow of a tree on a wall.

“Mood is an integral part of my message and this is achieved through strong tonal contrasts. My strong interest in both architecture and landscape is revealed by depicting the landscape through an old doorway or window of the building that interests me, or by ensuring that the old farm buildings are contextualized in the landscape, which is increasingly the Karoo,” she explains.

Her studio is an extension of her home. She can put up a painting that she's busy with and see it from the kitchen while cooking – and note what's wrong

with it or what to do next.

“I enjoy acrylics for their fast drying properties (she will build as many as three layers onto each canvass) and printmaking has to be one of the most exciting mediums – you never quite know what you're going to get and each proof is a surprise.”

She explains that she will submerge her etching plates in acid again and again until there is sufficient tonal contrasts and texture, or will add more lines or aquatinting for shading and, she says with an unsuppressed glee, “Sometimes you have to change your mind all together when you don't get what you are planning.”

Di says she is intent on recording a history – not just of the old buildings themselves, but perhaps a personal one for the viewer as well – a memory, a time past, a sense of childhood, her own nostalgia.

She enjoys it so much she says her dream is to be able to paint and draw for the rest of her days, quoting from a favourite poem:

*There are moments in our lives,
there are moments in a day, when
we seem to see beyond the usual.
Such are the moments of our greatest
happiness. Such are the moments
of our greatest wisdom. If one could
but recall his vision by some sort of
sign. It was in this hope that the
arts were invented. Sign-posts on
the way to what may be. Sign-posts
toward greater knowledge.*

Robert Henri (*The Art Spirit*)

- Jennifer Cohen -

PALSecurity & Services

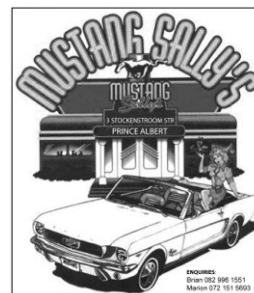
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Marie

Of

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You are welcome to visit her on **Facebook** to see some of the fashion at **Marie Paul**.

Should you have any questions please, feel free to e-mail her at:
marie.bliksie@gmail.com

She is originally from Prince Albert and her maiden surname was Minnie.

marie.bliksie@gmail.com
Cell Nr: 0833101733



Plaaslike Aurecon kantoor



Daar is 'n nuwe uithangbord in die hoofstraat: Aurecon, 'n maatskappy wat betrokke is by projekte in meer as tagtig lande en sowat 7,500 werkers het, gaan drie jaar lank 'n kantoor in Prince Albert bedryf (Foto: Denise Ohlson)

Die Prince Albert Munisipaliteit het Aurecon, 'n maatskappy wat spesialiseer in ingenieurswerk, beplanning en tegniese dienste, se tender aanvaar om vir drie jaar as raadgewende ingenieurs op te tree vir beoogde infrastruktuuropgradering.

Volgens Heinrich Mettler, munisipale bestuurder, het die munisipaliteit aansoek gedoen vir R30 miljoen – waarvan nasionale regering R8,1 miljoen goedgekeur het vir die 2012/13 boekjaar. Die geld moet spandeer word aan “pro-poor”-projekte, en daar is begroot om in Klaarstroom 'n nuwe boorgat te sink en die rioolwerke op te gradeer; in Prince Albert die vaste-afvalpersele volgens standaard in te rig en stormwaterdreinerings te implementeer, asook die rioolwerke in Leeu-Gamka in plek te kry.

Aurecon sal as ingenieurs betrokke wees

by hierdie projekte, maar het ook onderneem om korporatiewe sosiale investering in die dorp te doen.

Albert Geldenhuys, bestuurder van Aurecon Suid-Afrika, het al sedert 1994 'n voetspoor hier in Prince Albert: Hy het 'n perseel in sy huis in die hoofstraat afgestaan as maatskappykantoor. In die drie jaar wat hulle in die dorp betrokke sal wees, beoog die maatskappy, afgesien van praktiese ingenieursinsette, om ook kundigheid en kennis aan kontrakteurs op die munisipaliteit se databasis oor te dra.

Deur opleiding sal kontrakteurs wat kwalifiseer deur die vereiste gradering te kry, kan tender vir werk. Albert verduidelik: “Dit is Aurecon se leuse om menslike prestasie in elke aspek van ons werk te bevorder.”

- Denise Ohlson -

Creative Paving and Stone Walls

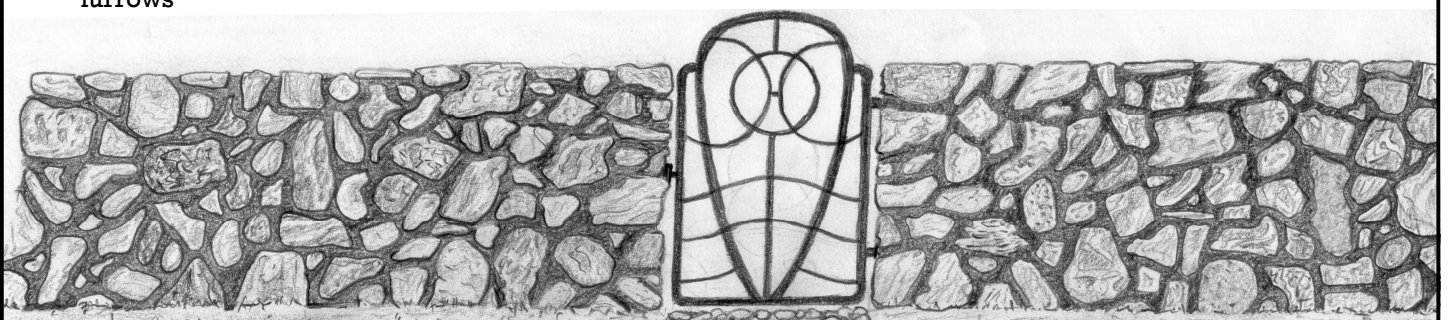


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FOR QUOTES

Contact Johan
083 4585 467



Garden Club News

The Fransie Pienaar Museum's library was the venue for the Garden Club's meeting on a chilly afternoon in July. Christiaan Viljoen, a nature conservation student at the Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University's campus in George gave an audiovisual presentation on Stapeliads to an audience keen to learn more about this large group of succulent plants. This was followed by a discussion on the history of the Museum's garden, which Garden Club volunteers are currently sprucing up.

Stapeliads – orchids of the desert

There are over 300 species of Stapeliads worldwide; a large number are in South Africa where they are abundant throughout the Karoo. The plants have unique characteristics such as succulent stems without leaves, their flowers have five petals and various colourful shapes and sizes and their odours range from the sweetest scent to the most dreadful carrion smell. In size the plants vary from less than 2.5cm to over 2m tall.

The plant's complex flower has inner and outer coronas, which protect its pollen. Most Stapeliads use flies as pollinators which are attracted by the odours of dung or rotting meat emanating from the flowers. Hence, the myth that Stapeliads are carnivores! However, Christiaan explained, not all species smell bad or attract flies. Instead they lure beetles, butterflies and moths as pollinators. Most flower in May and April and again in September and October.

Gardeners wanting to grow Stapeliads should plant cuttings in sterile soil with no organic matter. They do well in rock or succulent gardens with some shade and should not be overwatered - under wet conditions they tend to rot.

Christiaan, who spoke with great enthusiasm and knowledge on Stapeliads, has his own collection of about 300 plants and spends a great deal of his spare time studying them in the veld. He is spending this year in Prince Albert at Renu-

Karoo Veld Restoration. Christiaan can be contacted via email at: Christiaan.viljoen.25@gmail.com

Ione Auerswald won the lucky draw – a Stapeliad donated by Renu-Karoo. She generously gave it to Vic Tickner who is creating a rock garden with these succulents.

Museum's Garden

Curator, Lydia Barrella, briefly outlined the history of the Fransie Pienaar Museum and its garden. Photographs from the archives revealed the building as the private residence of the Haak family with its elegant Victorian garden and later as the town's hospital before it was acquired by the Municipality to house Fransie Pienaar's collection.

Various gardens were planted over time and unfortunately, neglected. In the 1990's Frieda Haak, Jan Haak's granddaughter, worked hard to restore the garden to how she remembered it as a child, planting the pink roses that still grow along the *leivoor*. In 2000, Ione Auerswald and Margie Arnold revived the garden's Victorian design, planting hardy iceberg roses along the Museum path. In recent years, Reinwald Dede-kind and Ione have cared for the grounds, including the succulent garden on the pavement and the indigenous garden next to the Tourism Office. Lydia noted that the garden has always been a special place enjoyed by both visitors and locals.

In recent weeks, the Garden Club has volunteered to restock the garden. The Club and the Thursday Group have donated compost and mulch to improve the soil. Rosemary McEwan is managing the project and has already spent hours weeding and planting donations of slips, plants, seedlings and groundcovers. The emphasis is on a waterwise garden while not changing its original character. Sadly, part of the newly stocked garden was vandalised on the night of the Moonlit Market, 12 July. In spite of this, in Spring the garden is bound to be filled

with colour! Should anyone wish to donate plants, compost, etc to the garden, please contact Rosemary on 023 541 076.

August Meeting

At our meeting on 1 August we shall continue to focus on the Museum with a planting, pruning and weeding work party. Meet there at 3pm - wear gardening clothes and old shoes, and bring secateurs, spades, forks and gardening gloves. You will be rewarded with a cup of tea and a slice a cake, so bring your mug too! Please note that this is a change from the previously announced venue.

Dates for your diary

On 5 September, Julie Waterston has invited all members and friends to visit the gardens of Karoo View Cottages. Sue Dean will take us on a guided tour of the indigenous plants.

The annual Plant Sale will be held in October, so please keep this in mind when you are busy in your own garden and start taking slips and pot up seedlings now so that we have a good show of rooted plants for the sale.

We welcome new members and you need not be a knowledgeable or experienced gardener to join. We are delighted to announce that Renu-Karoo has become our first corporate member and would love other businesses to join. The annual single membership is R30 while corporate members pay R50. Our programme covers a wide range of events and topics throughout the year. An added benefit is receiving a generous 10% discount on all purchases at Renu-Karoo nursery.

Contact Sue Goosen on 023 541 1588 or Dawn Viljoen on 023 541 1823 to learn more.

- Dawn Viljoen -

Ooievaar vlieg oor Prince Albert

Jané Marais



Jan-Chris en Anchen Marais se baba dogtertjie Jané is gebore op 22 Februarie met 'n lengte van 52cm en 'n gewig van 3.65kg.

Sy is oupa André, ouma Louise, oupa Dolf en ouma Jeanette se oogappel. Sy is baie gelukkig om nog drie oumagrootjies en een oupagrootjie ook te hê. Oupa Chris, ouma Elise Janse van Rensburg asook ouma Susan Gouws en ouma Hettie Odendaal.

Dayaan Mercha Moos



Dayaan Mercha Moos is op 7 Julie 2012 gebore, om 17:45 en het die skaal op 2.8kg getrek.

Dayaan Mercha Moos is op 7 Julie 2012 gebore, om 18:45 en het die skaal op 2.8kg getrek.

Dayaan se verwagte datum was eers op die 26 Julie; maar sy besluit toe om met die intrapslag te wys wie nou eintlik baas is, en het haar koms met 19 dae vervroeg sonder om dit met mammi Melony Moos en daddy Donovan Ontong te bespreek. Die gemoedere het hoog geloop toe sy haar "entrance" maak; maar sy is met trots deur haar ouers ontvang.

Tydens Melony se swangerskap was daar 'n paar lagwekkende oomblikke om te onthou. Sy kon Donovan nie naby haar verdra nie en die oumense het altyd gesê die baba is 'n meisiekind as die optrede so is. Dan praat ons nie eers van die peusel nie; haar woorde was: "Ek gaan gou kombuis toe as jy my soek, ek's da!"

Dankie aan die personeel van die Prince Albert Hospitaal wat Melony en Donovan tydens die bevalling bygestaan het.

De Winter van Zyl



Op 1 April 2012 maak De Winter van Zyl om 21h20, 'n dag vroeg, sy opwagting.

Dié bulletjie trek die skaal op 3.21kg. Hy word op 29 Julie in die NG Kerk Prince gedoop in die teenwoordigheid van sy trotse ouers, Ewert van Zyl en Talita Badenhorst, oupa Piet Badenhorst, wie se enigste kleinseun hy is en ouma Babs van Zyl, wie se sewende kleinkind hy is.

Chrystal Charmaine Freysen



Op 21 Junie, 10 dae na haar boetie se derde verjaarsdag, is Chantelle en Stefan Freysen se pragtige dogtertjie, Chrystal Charmaine, gebore.

Sy spog met 'n pragtige 3.44kg gewig en 'n 49cm in lengte by geboorte. Chantelle, Stefan en Michail: Baie baie geluk, mag sy vir jul net lewensvreugde en baie plesier verskaf. Baie geluk ook aan die trotse oumagrootjie, Engela van Eck, ouma Chen Freysen en oupas, Jim Freysen en Johan van Eck.

✠ Cornie Koen (24 April 1967 – 12 July 2012)



Cornie Koen

Twelve years ago Cornie joined Prince of Africa after working for Standard Bank's Prince Albert branch. She was a lovely, kind and loving person, and also an excellent

shop manager, neat, efficient, polite, interested, conscientious and patient, especially with difficult customers.

Cornie shared in the excitement when we received new blankets, in the bright colours of the mohair products and the challenge of making the shop a success. Her crocheted doilies, scarves and shawls were a hit with both local and foreign tourists. She was a blessing for me.

Cornie also managed the *Prince Albert Friend's* admin from the shop for seven years. She did an impeccable job and rarely complained even when dealing with stubborn debtors.

Cornie was a deeply committed Christian, wife and mother. Cornie and Johan's daughter, Illandy, was their pride and joy. Cornie said that their priority was being good parents and ensuring that Illandy was also well educated.

her last oncology appointment, Cornie commented, "We did that, I am so proud of Illandy."

She loved the dream home she and Johan built on the farm outside Prince Albert and looked forward to living there and growing her own vegetables one day. Sadly, after battling cancer for 19 years she could not carry on any more.

We are all praying that Illandy and Johan will find the strength to continue living Cornie's dream. They know that they have the support of all their friends and colleagues. Cornie's mother and family in Rustenburg are also in our thoughts.

Thank you, Cornie, for being such a huge part of all our lives, we were lucky.

- Di Steyn -

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Kom maak 'n draai en gesels met VASTI of JOHAN



Vrouegesondheid –GRATIS– JY is verantwoordelik vir jou welsyn!

Die Wes-Kaap Regering het vroeër in die maand die “Vier Seisoene” Vroue-gesondheidsveldtog van stapel gestuur. Die doel is om vroue te bemagtig om self na hulle gesondheid om te sien en ook om vir hulle vinnige, maklike en effektiewe toegang en ’n holistiese benadering tot hulle eie gesondheid te gee.

In die lig van Vrouedag word vroue in die provinsie aangemoedig om ten volle gebruik te maak van elke geleentheid en om hulself te vergewis van sake soos voorbehoed keuses, ongewenste swangerskappe, gesinsbeplanning, servikale en borskanker toetse, voorgeboortesorg en chroniese siekte bestuur.

Theuns Botha, die Wes-Kaap se Minister van Gesondheid, het vroeër in die maand gesê: “Vroue se gesondheid is een van ons top vyf gesondheidsprioriteite. Plaaslike hospitale sal gratis dienste verskaf om die servikale kankertoetsing tot 67,3% op te stoot, die getalle van voorge-

boorte besoeke voor die twintigste week van swangerskap na 60% te vermeerder en om geboortes van moeders onder agtien jaar oud tot 6,4% te beperk.”

Die Wes-Kaap Staatsgesondheid wil die oorsake van sterftes verbonde aan moeder-skap verminder, die bestuur van swangerskappe verbeter, kwaliteit voorsiening van voorbehoeding verseker, voor en nageboortesorg verbeter, sterftes na onveilige abortsies elimineer en gemeenskapsgesondheid bewustheid en beskikbaarheid opskerp.

“Ek wil my op alle vroue beroep om verantwoordelikheid vir hulle gesondheid te neem en om ten volle gebruik te maak van die gratis dienste wat in ons fasiliteite beskikbaar is.” sê Minister Botha.

- Voorbehoedkeuses
- Swangerskap
- Gesondheidstoetse vir vroue
- Gratis PAP smere

- Bors-ondersoeke
- Toetse vir chroniese siektes: bloeddruk, cholesterol, suikersiekte,
- VIGS

Die “Right to Care” bussie met uitsers bekwaame personeel besoek Prince Albert maandeliks – daar word gratis papsmere, borsondersoeke, gesinsbeplanning en VIGS toetsing gedoen. Die Augustus datum kan by die kliniek bekom word en die diens is beskikbaar aan die hele gemeenskap, al sou hulle ’n mediese fonds hê.

Toekomstige spesiale gesondheids-uitreike vir almal, mans en vrouens, met stalletjies word beplan vir:

7 Desember 2012

Prince Albert – Vrischgewaadg

8 Februarie 2013

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8 Maart 2013

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- Barbara Gorniak -

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Municipal Finances & Ward Committee Reporting

The 2012/2013 Municipal Budget

July 1st marked the beginning of the new municipal financial year. And a look at the budget makes interesting reading. The total operating budget is R46,4 million (rounded off) of which nine million is for capital expenditure and a surplus of R3 200.00 is expected. Just over half the budget, R23,7 million, will come from the Provincial and National treasuries.

The poorest of the poor will be subsidised to the tune of R2,7million. Municipal employees' wages will account for R11,13 million (around 30% of the total budget) - slightly down from last year. Income from rates and services is expected to be about R18,6 million with a payment rate of 90%. At the end of June 2011 R5,5 million was owed to the Prince Albert Municipality (PAM) in outstanding accounts. And of that, R3,5 million had been outstanding for more than three months. Deceased estates are a contributing factor in that the deceased's municipal accounts are not closed off. Surviving family members are encouraged to contact PAM's accounts' department on such matters. The good news is that, despite hard times and rising costs, outstanding payments has increased by just 2% over the 2011/2012 financial year. So the PAM is grateful to those who pay regularly and on time every month.

Expected income from traffic fines is R2.6 million, but almost immediately wiped out by councillors' remuneration of R2,17 million. Due to a lack of funds, only R1,2 million has been allocated to repairs and maintenance... a situation that council hopes to remedy sooner rather than later. Direct income from the

sale of electricity will be R10,7 million offset by a payment of R6,7 million to ESCOM for the service. (Which, sadly, doesn't mean a fat profit as there are many expenses to be met in the provision of that service.)

Increases in property rates and water are 9,6% and 10% respectively, while electricity will rise by 10% per basic charge and 11,03% for usage. The charge for pre-paid meters will increase by 11,03%.

As you may know, the system of emptying conservancy tanks has changed. In the past residents phoned the municipality to have their tanks emptied and paid accordingly. Now a monthly levy of R91.20 (R80 plus VAT) per household will be charged and tanks will be emptied every month. (A slightly different tariff applies to businesses and guesthouses.)

Some areas of Prince Albert have been on the waterborne system for a few years, and the monthly levy for that will increase by 7%. The PAM anticipates that the whole town will be put onto the waterborne system eventually as detailed in

the current Integrated Development Plan (IDP). The cost of this is huge but would be met by provincial government.

Ward Committee Reporting

Make a note that Barbara Castle represents members of this Association on the Ward Committee, and will raise issues with the relevant ward councillor on behalf of members.

After each monthly Ward Committee meeting Barbara will report back on projects under discussion and progress on members' issues. To communicate quickly and directly with members email is the preferred channel. So please make sure we have your address by mailing pa.rra@iafrica.com with WARD COMMITTEE in the subject line. Upcoming Ward Committee meetings are scheduled for 7th August and 5th September.

So do let us have your concerns, or suggestions for improved municipal service delivery – as well as how you think the issue might be resolved – as soon as possible.



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Fire Severely Damages St John's 'Living Fossil' Tree



The old Bunya tree at St John's Church was badly damaged in a recent fire (Photo: John McKenna)

Late on the night of Wednesday, 18 July, a fire caused extensive damage to the old Bunya tree in the garden of St John's Anglican Church on Bank Street. The Prince Albert Police, assisted by the Municipal fire service and the Municipal Manager, Heinrich Mettler, managed to extinguish the fire and hope-

fully save the tree, which is estimated to be nearly 200 years old. They also prevented the fire spreading to the church building and the adjacent private property.

Yolande Singery, who witnessed the fire at about 22h00 on 18 July, described the flames as fierce. The tree oozes resin, which explains why it was so combustible. The Police have no evidence as to how the fire started and whether it may have been deliberately lit. A forester has advised the St John's congregation to leave the tree alone for a couple of months for it to get over the shock of the fire. When it started producing shoots, he said, the dead wood could be trimmed. The forester seemed confident the tree would recover.

It is thought that the NG Kerk congregation planted the Bunya tree before the land was sold to the Anglican Church in the 1860s. It is now part of the St John's Church's labyrinth and its shade provides a place of

contemplation, quiet and prayer. The fire damaged the bench under the tree but the Church's congregation believes it can be repaired. Lin and Jack Davies from the Florida Baptist Church donated the bench to St John's several years ago. (Lin's father, whose surname was Baillie, and grandfather are buried in the NG Kerk cemetery.)

The Bunya tree, *Araucaria Bidwillii*, is a native of Queensland, Australia. It is also known as the "False Monkey Puzzle Tree." This species of tree has existed since the Jurassic Period, approximately 15 million years ago. It can grow up to 45 metres high with a trunk diameter of up to 1.5 metres. The leaves are spiny and spikey and the fruit is pineapple-shaped and is about 23cm long and 20cm in diameter. The fruit can weigh up to 8.2kg and was believed to have been eaten by dinosaurs. The life span of this tree is 500 to 1000 years and it is regarded as a "living fossil."

- John McKenna -

Renu-Karoo Veld Restoration cc



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VLV vergaderings



Ria Potgieter wys ons hoe om 'n papier mâché hart te maak... (Foto: Yvette Breedt)

Onder ons studierigting Kunste en handvlyt, het ons besluit om in hierdie jaar 'n kunstenaar te nader wat ons as dames kan inspireer.

Daarom, op 'n pragtige middag in April, kom al die dames van die VLV by *Lah-di-dah* bymekaar vir 'n heerlike saamkuier met die baie innemende en talentvolle kunstenaar, Ria Potgieter, 'n boervrou wat saam met haar man Joey op hul lieflike plaas naby Oudtshoorn woon.

Op een van die tafels stal sy al haar artikels uit... van *papier mâché* harte, houtkaartjies tot pragtige skilderye. Almal het na hartelus vir hulself en hulle geheime vriendinne gekoop. Die hoogtepunt van die middag was 'n demonstrasie deur Ria, waar sy stap vir stap gewys hoe om 'n *papier mâché* hart te maak. Ria Potgieter kwalifiseer as kuns onderwyseres, maar skilder was nog altyd deel van haar menswees. Haar skilderye word in die Kaap verkoop, maar ons is gelukkig om dit sommer hier naby te kan geniet, want van haar werk is by Klapperbos in De Rust te koop. Sy maak buitengewone sakpas geskenke waarvan almal hou. 'n Paar jaar gelede het sy ook uit haar huis koek en tee voorsien vir die toeriste wat met die Herrie treintjie verby hul plaas gery het.

Baie duisend dankies aan Yvette en haar personeel vir die gebruik van hul pragtige padstal en dat julle langer as gewoonlik vir ons oopgebly het.

In 'n verdere studierigting, op Woensdag

16 Mei, naamlik openbare sake, gesels en gee Rian Coetzee raad aan lede en hul huishulpe. Sake wat bespreek word gaan onder meer oor testamente en wat mens te doen staan as iemand sonder 'n testament te sterwe kom. Wat om te doen met die verkoop van eiendom, onderhoud en baie belangrik, om weg te bly van smouse wat begrafnispolisse verkoop of geldleen plekke wat jou net sal uitroei omdat hulle meestal gewetenloos is.

Dit was regtig 'n baie insiggewende praatjie om ons net weer bewus te maak van al die slaggate waarin mens so maklik kan trap. Dis is ook gerusstellend om te weet dat prokureurs daar is om mense te help. Baie dankie Rian, vir jou tyd en jou bereidheid om met ons te kom gesels.

In studierigting, Gesondheid, was dit Karin Miller wat, op haar rustige manier, ons meer kom vertel van *Colour Healing Energy – the understanding of colour and its relationship to healing. A non-invasive gentle healing therapy...*

Sjoe, dit is baie interessant ... en as jy nie jouself is nie en nie weet wat fout is nie, skakel gerus vir Karin vir 'n sessie. Moenie verbaas wees as sy jou verras met wat sy sê nie.

Baie dankie Karin, dat jy jou kennis met ons gedeel het en ons ingelig het oor iets wat voorheen aan ons onbekend was. Mens is nooit te oud om te leer nie!

Oor ons besoek by Gudrun Toelstede op 25 Julie berig ons volgende keer.

MJF FOTOGRAFIE/ PHOTOGRAPHY



Plaaslike en vriendelike diens/Local and friendly service!

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- Verlowings-partytjies/Engagements-parties
- Mondigwordings/Emancipations
- Matriekafskeide/Matric-farewells
- Baba- en kleuter foto's/Toddler- and infant photos
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Music Fiesta in Support of Women's Day



Wendy Oldfield celebrates Women's Day 2012 at Mustang Sally's

Local country rock musician, Brian Finch, has invited fellow performers Wendy Oldfield and Tigger Reunert to join him in celebrating Women's Day at Mustang Sally's in Prince Albert on 10 and 11 August. The three musos will perform solo acts, duets and as a threesome.

Wendy, Brian and Tigger have all had long careers in South Africa. For several years, Wendy has performed at the Women's Day event at Kirstenbosch National Botanical Gardens. This year Brian and his wife, Marion, asked her to be part of their planned celebration in Prince Albert. Wendy is the winner of several music awards and has been involved in production of movie scores, musical arrangements, wild life documentaries and children's albums. She is currently recording a long awaited album, which is due for release at the end of 2012.

Tigger Reunert began his musical career at an early age performing in a choir and in various musical productions. It was at this early stage that his love affair with the guitar and entertaining people began. He has toured and recorded with many of South Africa's well-known artists, most recently with Brian Finch.

Singer/songwriter Brian Finch needs no introduction to Prince Alberters. He recently released his new album, "In Another World." The CD has apparently sold the fastest to date and Brian continues to write and perform live for his fans all over South Africa and Namibia. Brian says that he will carry on doing so "until his last breath!"

Tickets cost R80 per person and are on sale at the Tourism Office. Should you purchase your ticket before 7 August, R3 will be donated to the Tourism Office to sponsor voting for Prince Albert in the final round of the *Kwêla/Rapport Dorp van die Jaar* competition. Accommodation establishments are being encouraged to offer their guests free tickets to a show as part of a special weekend package. Guest-houses will then be charged R75 per ticket. To learn more contact Marion Finch on 072 151 5693. Mustang Sally's is located at 3 Stockenstroom Street.

Hoe werk Een Stap Dekking?

Hoop jy jou geliefdes sal finansiële onafhanklik wees indien jy sterf of fisies ongeskik raak? Hoop jy dat jy daardie bietjie ekstra kan voorsien om begravniskoste te dek of 'n bestaande inkomste aan te vul?

Begin met dit waarvoor jy hoop. Sanlam se Een Stap Dekking bied 'n persoonlike dekkings-oplossing wat vir beide sterfte en fisiese inkorting voorsiening maak, met die gerief van 'beperkte onderskrywing'.



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Ons dink vooruit

Uitreikgroep 10 jaar betrokke by Prince Albert



Die uitreikgroep van die Stellenberg-gemeente voer 'n uitgelate weergawe van "Pinkensie" op vir 'n groot groep kinders in Noordend

Gedurende die winterskoolvakansie het die NG Kerk Stellenberg (Bellville) se uitreikgroep weer, soos die afgelope tien jaar al, die lang pad Prince Albert toe aangepak – nie om welsynwerk te doen nie, maar om die gemeenskap te kom bemoedig, ondersteun en versterk. Veertig jongmense, van graad 5 tot twintig jaar oud, het drie dae lank in Noordend en twee dae lank in Leeu-Gamka die tema "Identiteit in Christus" kom verkondig op grond van Gal 2:20.

Die boodskap: Jy is nie wat ander mense sê jy is nie: Jy is spesiaal... Jy is nie wat jy het nie – besittings is nie so belangrik nie.

Groepster Etienne van Wyk het beklemtoon dat die uitreik neutraal is en dat alle denominasies welkom is. Baptis, Apostolie, VGK, Anglikaan – almal het een doel, en dit is om Hom te dien met aanbidding en prysang. "Ons het gesien hoe die bestaande strukture in die dorp oor tien jaar al stewiger staan. Mense het saam gegroei en inisiatief begin neem om met geestelike gom te heg en te genees."

Die uitreikgroep het speletjies saam met 'n groot groep kinders gespeel, 'n drama

opgevoer, huisbesoeke gedoen en 'n byeenkoms met die gemeenskap gehou. Tydens 'n aanddiens is die film "Courageous" vertoon om die rol van mans en vroue in hul verhoudings, huwelike, werkplek en die lewe aan te spreek: Elke mens moet die rol in die gemeenskap speel wat vir hom of haar bedoel is.

Die groep se entoesiasme is onuitputlik en hulle is in die proses om 'n perseel in Prince Albert aan te koop waar 'n kleuterskool opgerig gaan word in samewerking met die plaaslike aksiegroep ROEP. Dié onverbonde groep mense gaan fokus op armoede, werkskepping en opleiding.

Pastoor Cecil de Kock se ervaring by die kleuterskool in Klappmuts waarop Prince Albert se skool geskoei gaan word, was vir hom 'n totale openbaring. Kinders daar leer dissipline en orde; hulle leer uitstekend lees en skryf en tel. Al dié vaardighede dra hulle huis toe, in die gemeenskap in - en neem dit saam deur hul hele lewe. "Wat die oog sien, sal die mond van praat", sê hy.

- Denise Ohlson -

(In die Karoo... Vervolg vanaf p 21)

30mm gemeet, gelukkig was dit sagte deurdringende reën en Maryna Olivier het opgewonde vertel dat hulle dam op Vrischgewaagd ook vol is. Die plase op die Seekoegatpad en in die dorp het meestal om en by 26mm gekry, alles stof tot groot dankbaarheid.

Voor die reën was die stand van Ou-Kloof-dam 27% (12.8m) vol, ten tye van hierdie berig was die dam reeds 96% vol (18.5m) en die verwagting is dat daar heelwat water op pad is en dat dit binnekort vol sal wees. Die Kweekvallei-sloot was reeds voor die reën vol en na die reën loop die surplus water in die Dorpsrivier af.

Dit wil dus lyk asof ons 'n belowende somer tegemoetgaan en persoonlik sien ek uit na pragtige veldblomme!

- Barbara Gorniak -

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HOËRSKOOL ZWARTBERG NUUS

NUWE ONDERWYSER



Me. Belinda Oosthuizen het aan die begin van die derde kwartaal in die plek van Mnr. D. Jacobs by die personeel van die Hoërskool Zwartberg aangesluit. Sy is hoofsaaklik verantwoordelik vir Rekenaartoepassingstegnologie.

MATRIEKAFSKEID 2012

Vrydagaand, 20 Julie, was dit die matrieks van Hoërskool Zwartberg se aand. Dit was matriekafskeid.

Die tabberds en haarstyle is lank voor die tyd beplan. Almal, die seuns en die meisies, was smaakvol geklee in die pragtigste uitrustings.

Die aand het afgeskop met 'n fotosessie op die rugbyveld van die Hoërskool Zwartberg en by die Albertsmeul. Daarna het almal by die bejaardesorg-sentrum in Noordeinde en Huis Kweekvallei hulle pragtige uitrustings vertoon en die bejaardes se asem weggeslaan. Die tema van die aand was 'Aspoestertjie' met pampoene en 'n koets. Dit alles het vir hulle gewag toe hulle oorbeweeg het na die keurig versierde skoolsaal, waar hulle hul dank oor aan Mev. Jakoba Visagie en haar helpers wat ook vir hulle 'n heerlike aansit-ete gereël het.

Die matrieks is dit eens dat die matriekafskeid een van die wonderlikste geleenthede van hulle lewens was en dat hulle baie spesiaal gevoel het in hulle eenmalige uitrustings en sprokieversierde saal. Sien bladsy 26 en 27 vir foto's.

BAIE GELUK MADIBA!



Die hele Hoërskool Zwartberg het vergader om deel te wees van die landswye en selfs internasionale poging om Madiba toe te sing met sy verjaardag. Wêreldwyd sou almal presies om 08:00 die liedjie "Happy birthday, Madiba" sing. Dit sou dan die meeste mense wees wat op een slag 'n persoon met sy verjaardag toesing. Dit was 'n groot voorreg om deel te wees van hierdie rekord.

VANDALE BREEK IN BY MOTORS

Op Saterdag, 21 Julie, is daar ingebreek by twee motors by Kroonhof Koshuis. Die motors was agter die koshuis onder die afdak wat vir die personeel se motors bedoel is, geparkeer. Toe een van die eienaars van die motors om 08:20 by die afdak kom om die motor uit te trek, het sy tot haar skok gesien dat daar by haar motor ingebreek is. By verdere ondersoek het dit aan die lig gekom dat daar by die motor langsaan ook ingebreek is, by albei voertuie is een agterruit uitgeslaan. Een van die motors se klein voorruitjie was ook uitgeslaan.

Die polisie is besig om die saak te ondersoek. 'n Forensiese deskundige van Beaufort-Wes het verskeie vingerafdrukke en selfs bloed op die motors gekry. Baie dankie aan Adjudant Offisier Moolman en Sersant Van Eck vir hulle hulp. Dit is jammer dat sulke dinge hier in die vreedsame Prince Albert moet gebeur, veral in die lig van die "Dorp van die Jaar"-kompetisie waaraan die dorp deelneem.

SKENKING VAN SKRYFBEHOEFTE



Kaptein Eddie Hattingh en Konstabel Vynzell Meyer van die plaaslike polisie het 'n skenking van skryfbehoeftes aan die Hoërskool Zwartberg gemaak. Die skryfbehoeftes is vir die gebruik deur minderbevoorregte leerders.

Op die meegaande foto ontvang Mnr. Richard McKnight, skoolhoof, die geskenk.

- Christelle Smit -

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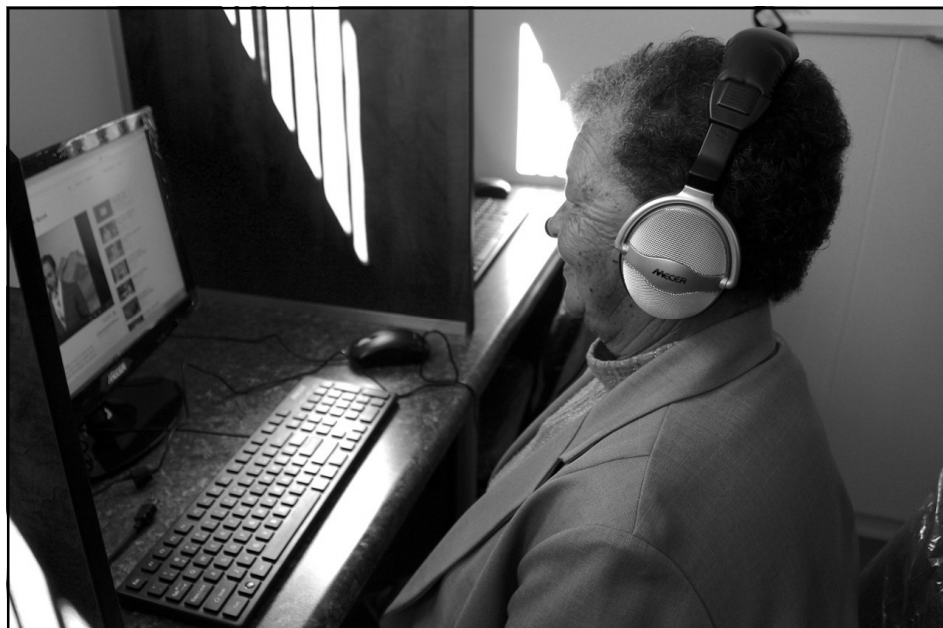


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Prince Albert's New eCentre



Senior resident, Ingrid Scheepers, enjoys learning how to use a computer

Prince Albert's new eCentre opened its doors to the community on 30 June. Equipped with 11 brand new computers with Internet connections, the eCentre is housed in the freshly painted, bright blue container next to the Sydwell Williams Centre and is open to all residents.

The eCentre is funded and maintained by Cape Access, a project run by the Department of the Premier of the Western Cape. The project's goal is to provide access to information and computer technology to rural communities across the province. There are now 19 eCentres in the Western Cape. According to Cape Access' Hilton Arendse, "This will increase the number of people who can gain access to government services, especially citizens who were previously not aware of or unable to access these services."

The eCentre will offer training so that residents can use its facilities effectively and also become more computer literate. Ashley Schippers, the eCentre's Manager and Lionel Wanie, its Development Manager, are due to complete the International Computer Driving Licence course (ICDL) soon and will then be able to train residents who wish to

gain or improve computer skills. Hilton Arendse proudly told the *Friend* of a pensioner in a small rural town who had recently successfully completed the ICDL, proof that one is never too old to learn a brand new skill.

Use of the computers is free of charge for the first 45 minutes and users can print the first 10 pages of a document at no cost. "Kids can do their projects here after school. Even if kids spend most of the 45 minutes playing computer games, we don't mind; we want them to feel comfortable at the keyboard and chances are that they will want to explore further," Ashley said. Lionel added that older residents, the members of the Golden Games, were being encouraged to learn how to use the computers.

The eCentre is open daily from 08h00 to 16h00 and on Saturday mornings from 08h00 to 12h00. It is wheelchair friendly. To learn more, contact Ashley or Lionel on 023 541 1628 or e-mail ashleyschippers@gmail.com

- Linda Jaquet -

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